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AGAWAM

Advertiser News

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Volume XXII Number 16

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

April 22, 1999



LISA ZIEGERT

Agawam Police Dept. Announces
Corporate Guarantee For Reward...

Info. Regarding Ziegert Slaying Worth \$100,000

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

There were white ribbons and white balloons, but no candlelit vigil marked the seventh anniversary of the brutal kidnapping and murder of 24 year-old Lisa Ziegert. This year, Lisa's family and friends gathered on the front lawn of the Agawam Police Station as Mayor Christopher C. Johnson announced a \$100,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killer or killers.

"We don't care about the motivation of anyone who comes forward with information because of the reward," Johnson said. "We just want them to come forward."

Speaking into the microphones of two local television stations for a live noontime broadcast last Thursday, Dianne Ziegert said, "Our beautiful Lisa was taken from us seven years ago on this day. Our daughter was abducted, raped, and left to die on the cold ground and her murderer walks free due to no lack of effort on the part of the Agawam Police Department."

Mrs. Ziegert praised Sergeant Wayne Macey for his diligence in working for a year to put together a reward for information leading to the conviction of the person or persons responsible for her daughter's murder.

"When something like this happens, you can go on with a positive attitude trying to do the best you can, day by day. Or you can just give up and then the killer will win twice. They will not win again," Mrs. Ziegert said. "Lisa's spirit keeps us going."

SEE ZIEGERT - Page 2...

"Mock" Accident At Agawam High



SINCE THE PROM SEASON IS UPON US, a "mock" accident (pictured above and below) was held last Wednesday, April 14th, at the Agawam High School to demonstrate the dangers of drinking and driving. (See related photos in "Education.") Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



ZIEGERT - from Page 1...

The message from the Ziegert family and Lisa's friends hasn't changed in the seven years since her body was discovered in a wooded area off Sufield Street. They will never forget Lisa and never stop trying to bring her killer to justice.

A teaching assistant at the Agawam Middle School, Lisa was abducted while working at her night job as a clerk in a gift shop on Walnut Street Extension. Her body was found on Easter Sunday after a massive four-day search.

Money Guaranteed By Berkshire Power CEO...

The money has been guaranteed by Berkshire Power CEO Michael Armitage in the hope that a financial incentive will entice anyone who has any information regarding the case, no matter how trivial it may seem, to come forward.

Macey, who has been a lead investigator on the case from the first day, said the law enforcement community has always believed that the information the police need to solve the crime and convict the killer or killers is "out there on the street."

"We believe a substantial reward can mean a new opportunity to hope for a break in the case. Other rewards this size have helped elsewhere," Macey said.

Macey said the reward is the tool the police need to finish the investigation and that the money will go a long way toward encouraging people to come forward.

"After seven years, we are positive there are people out there who know something. People talk to other people over the course of seven years and we need the public to call even if they think

the information is not important. Let us sift through the baloney," Macey urged.

After the police failed to receive support for a substantial reward from local banks, Johnson said he turned to Berkshire Power because of the company's track record of generosity in donating to community causes.

"When the Mayor asked me to guarantee the reward, my answer was, 'Yes, what can we do immediately?'" Armitage said. "We have been in Agawam a short four years, but we've known about this tragedy. No one in Agawam could not know of the pain felt by the friends and family of Lisa Ziegert. If we can help the police with solving this terrible crime, we can help make the community a safer place for everyone."

Every Piece Of Information Cross-Referenced...

Police Chief Robert Campbell said every piece of information gathered over the course of the seven-year investigation has been cross-referenced and stored in files that are kept in a small room dedicated to the Ziegert investigation in the Detective Bureau.

Campbell said he expects the announcement of the reward will result in the assignment of more officers to man the phones to assist Macey and Detectives Anthony Malone and Steven Grasso in following up on every new lead.

Campbell hopes the reward will serve as the catalyst that will allow the police access to the information they need to bring the case to a successful conclusion.

Anyone with information can call the Detective Bureau at 786-1717 or 789-9602.

"Westfield River User's Guide" Now Available From Keenan's Office

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan is pleased to share with his constituents a user's guide to the Westfield River. Anyone interested in obtaining a *Westfield River User's Guide* should contact Rep. Keenan's office at (413) 786-4545.

The guide contains a map of the area, and a list of recreational activities such as cultural events, museums, public parks, and historic and scenic

sites along the river. There is also a list of places where camping, canoeing, and bicycling opportunities can be found.

The Westfield River was the first in Massachusetts to be designated "Wild and Scenic" by the National Park Service, and its beauty is shared by the 27 communities within its basin.

You turn our pages every week for all the local news ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

Applies To New Homeowners, Too...

Homeowners Should Be On The Lookout For Their Tax Bills

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

If you own a home or real estate in Agawam and you haven't yet received your property tax bill, you should call the Collector's Office at Town Hall (immediately) to receive a copy of your bill.

Even if a property owner never received it, the tax bill must be paid by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, May 3rd, or interest of 14 percent will be tacked on from April 1, 1999 until the bill is paid.

"People have fallen through the cracks before, so we're trying to get to them before that happens. Of course, we don't want anyone to get caught," according to Town Treasurer Laurel Placzek.

Ms. Placzek said new homeowners can run into problems because the tax bill is sent to the owner of record as of January 1st, 1998; i.e., if a home was purchased in September, the property tax bill would be addressed to the former owner and could be forwarded to that person without the present owner ever knowing about it. Seeing the Agawam Collector's Office as the return address, the former owner could feel the bill was simply a mistake or a duplicate and throw it away.

"We do put in a notice with the lien certificate, so that the lawyer can alert the homeowner at the closing on the property, but there have been cases where people fell through the cracks," Ms. Placzek said. "And we also put the information on the community bulletin board (on Channel 15)."

Payment for the second half of fiscal year 1999 (July 1, 1998 to June 30, 1999) real estate and property tax bills is due in the town Collector's Office by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, May 3rd. The second half year notices were mailed on March 26th to the owners of record as of January 1st of the preceding year.

Property owners who haven't received their bills are urged to call the Collector's Office at 786-0400, ext. 221.

— ADVERTISER NEWS —

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Lindeman's (750 ml.)

Bin 65 Chardonnay (Australia) **\$6.49**

Chateau St. Jean (750 ml.)

Sonoma Chardonnay (California) **\$9.49**

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Spaten Optimator
\$5.99
(Plus Dep.)

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(Plus Dep.)

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Canadian, Light
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\$16.49
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(1.75 Ltr.)
\$29.99

Cuervo Tequila
(750 ml.)
\$11.99

Fleishman Whiskey
(1.75 Ltr.)
\$11.99

Gilbey's Gin
(1.75 Ltr.)
\$12.99

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(1.75 Ltr.)
\$11.49

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(1.75 Ltr.)
\$12.99

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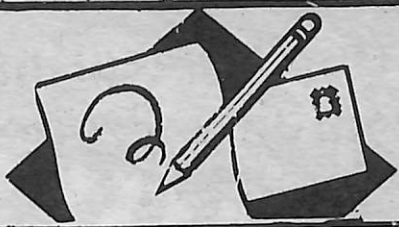
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Letters To The Editor

Pres. Of Girls' Basketball Parents Thanks Businesses

To The Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the businesses of Agawam for the generosity and support in making this a successful year for Agawam girls' basketball.

I believe we have a good, giving, and loyal town, and the business community proves this point again.

Also, my heartfelt thanks goes out to the people involved who helped me this year. Your time, effort, and dedication to achieving our goals made this a great experience.

Thank you,
Harold Cote
President,

Agawam Girls' Basketball Parents Association

Former E.B's Softball Player Says Thank-You For Support

To The Editor:

Hi, ladies! Well, it's that time of year again, and I'm excited for you, but, unfortunately, will not be coming out to play.

Some of you will remember me by the accident that I had in June of last year as I graciously slid into second base while playing for E.B's and fractured my leg, tore my ACL, and tore the cartilage in my knee.

Needless to say, the experience was not pleasant and very costly in more ways than one! My sincere thanks go out to all of you who generously participated in the softball banquet in August and to those who voted to give me the proceeds from the raffles that were held, which kept my medical insurance going until I was able to get back to work.

I ended up being out of work for 3½ months with no disability insurance, and that money helped to get me out of a jam. All that in the name of softball!

I just love the game and always said that I would play as long as my body allowed. Well, my body is still not allowing, so I guess that puts an end to my illustrious career, for now.

My sincere thanks also go out to my coaches and those teammates who were genuinely concerned about my well-being and kept in touch. Thanks, guys!

I hope you all have a great season and remember, above all else, to be a good sport and have fun! EEEEEEEEEEEBBBBB's!!!

Sincerely,
Cathy Baker

Let's Hope Berkshire Power's Money Will Be Of Some Value

To The Editor:

Each time I drive by the cemetery that Lisa Ziegert is buried in, I pray for her and her family. The day of her memorial service, I accidentally drove into the huge funeral procession on Main Street and had to pull off to the side of the road while I cried uncontrollably for this young woman and the family that I had never met. Yes, our entire community was deeply touched by this tragedy.

It's unfortunate that monetary rewards are sometimes the impetus to encourage people to do "the right thing." The Ziegert family, our community, and our local police must feel positively energized and hopeful that a \$100,000 bond from Berkshire Power Development Corp. has been secured for information leading to the arrest and conviction of young Ms. Ziegert's assailant. Unfortunately, for me, this gesture is sorely tainted.

For the past six years, the Concerned Citizens and Businesses of Agawam, CCBA, along with thousands of supporters, worked diligently to halt the construction of this 272 MGW power plant, with very little money. For many reasons they failed, although all aspects of the plant's operation have not yet been resolved.

How timely that shortly after this generous contribution and public relations success that Berkshire Power will have to face two important and quite negative hearings in Boston and Springfield. One regarding an oil storage permit and the second a lawsuit that they have against your neighbors. The folks who were brave enough to

say NO publicly, in order to protect the character and integrity of our community.

If Berkshire Power were TRULY concerned with the Town of Agawam, firstly they'd never be building on Moylan Lane. Secondly, they would be using advanced cooling technology more respectful to our water supply. Thirdly, they would have an evacuation plan in place that meets the needs of its local residents. Fourthly, they would run year-round on gas, with no utilization of oil. Fifthly, they would have secured a bond for the power plant with the Town of Agawam. But all of that costs money.

Repeatedly it was proven that BP will go to any lengths to make money, they take no prisoners, they have no conscience. Money brings greed and power, literally and figuratively. Can this manipulative gesture bring into balance all the evil and destruction that preceded it. Not in my mind.

One by one, businesses and citizens were bought out to quiet the cries of opposition. Smooth-talking politicians, lawyers, consultants, and intimidating thugs succeeded in hushing the dissenters, and achieving BP's goals. Meanwhile, friendships dissolved, families were at odds, folks moved out of the community, individuals lost their jobs. In some cases, rage and anger rules people's lives; in others, depression set in. Shame and guilt were felt and imposed by neighbors onto neighbors.

Michael Armitage, CEO for BP, was "tickled pink," the *Union News* stated, that Mayor Chris Johnson asked him to help with reward money. Too bad the money is "DEVIL RED." If Mr. Armitage is so proud of his new business and so committed to the Town of Agawam, why did he buy his new home on top of a mountain in another state? Why isn't Agawam reaping the tax dollars and financial benefits of having a family who can afford a half-million-dollar home?

Imagine if five years ago an ANONYMOUS \$100,000 bond had been taken out to encourage someone to come forward with pertinent information regarding that horrific crime. The generous benefactor would be revealed upon arrest and conviction of the crime. The criminal is found, tried, convicted, and sentenced. The day after, headlines in the newspaper reveal that Berkshire Power Development Corporation had taken out the bond, for the good of the community. Even my frozen heart would begin to thaw.

All but one of us hopes that Lisa Ziegert's assailant will be found, convicted, and appropriately punished. Unfortunately, the reward money has been tainted by the corruptness of outsiders and current politicians that will use any means to obtain their objectives, including trying to mask manipulation and public relations stunts for warm-heartedness and generosity.

May Berkshire Power's money finally bring about something of true value. Emotional relief, a level of closure, and a greater sense of safety and well-being for the family of Lisa Ziegert and this community.

Donna Jago
Agawam

Children Are At Risk For Neurobiological Disorders

To The Editor:

I am shocked, incensed, appalled! And this is putting it mildly! The health and welfare of children and adolescents (ages four to 18) with neurobiological disorders (also known as serious mental illnesses) is once again being placed at risk by adults who should know better! That's the bad news. The good news is that you can do something about this if you act now! But, first, the ugly details...

At a public hearing held last Wednesday (April 14th) at Holyoke Community College, the Executive Director of the Holyoke Health Center, Jay Breines, asked the Department of Public Health to, "...not reward Providence Hospital by granting their determination of needs request for 12 inpatient beds in their child and adolescent psychiatric unit."

It's important to note here that Providence Hospital is THE ONLY INPATIENT PROVIDER OF CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES IN ALL OF WESTERN MASS., AND THE ADDITIONAL 12 BEDS REQUESTED WOULD BRING THE TOTAL BEDS AVAILABLE TO JUST 24 -HARDLY A LARGE NUMBER WHEN ONE CONSIDERS THE GEOGRAPHICAL AREA COVERED BY WESTERN MASS.

Not enough to accommodate all the children and adolescents in need - yet a beginning nonetheless. Mr. Breines and one of his colleagues spoke about grievances their agency has with the Sisters of Providence Health System and demanded financial retribution and certain concessions from the hospital before any expansion plans are approved by the State.

Is it not audacious, immoral, unethical, to use vulnerable, hurting, needy children as pawns in order to settle professional disputes? I think the answer clearly is, yes! How dare Mr. Breines and his agency challenge and jeopardize the outcome of this badly-needed, long-overdue request! How dare he and his agency hold children "hostage" in order to get their demands met! This is outrageous and shameful!

This is not a question of "rewarding" anyone! This is very much a matter of acting justly to provide medical attention and services to children in desperate need. Would Mr. Breines and his agency use these same tactics if the children in question suffered from cancer of AIDS? I seriously doubt it. Yet, the neurobiological disorders we're talking about here are just as real, serious, physical, and painful, and can be as life threatening as cancer of AIDS. Those who suffer with them should be treated, cared for, and protected; they should not be used as leverage to profit agencies, personalities, or agendas.

Yes, the story has an ugly beginning; but it need not have any ugly ending. People who truly care about children can make the vital difference needed to insure this tale's non-tragic end. Contact: Joyce James, Director, Determination of Needs Program, 6th Floor, Department of Health, 10 West St., Boston, MA 02111, today, and SPEAK OUT FOR THE CHILDREN BY BACKING PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL'S REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRIC INPATIENT BEDS.

One in five families are affected by the neurobiological disorders known as mental illnesses. Should yours become one of them, wouldn't you want to know that there was some place your child could go for treatment and for care?

Janice D'Amours White
NAMI of Western MA Board Member
52 Hamilton Cir., F.H., MA
(413) 786-2366

Second-Hand Smoke Is A Problem In Public Places

To The Editor:

I was pleased to read in Kathy Shepard's April 15th article that Agawam's health agent, Randall White, "has been able to bring changes and progress for public health." I was disappointed, however, that there was no mention of progress being made regarding the problem of second-hand smoke in Agawam's restaurants and public places.

SEE LETTERS - Page 5...



The Agawam Advertiser•News

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LETTERS - from Page 4...

The Board of Health's current smoking regulations begin by citing the harmful effects of smoking and second-hand smoke. They go on to detail what restaurants and public places are required to do in order to comply with the regulations.

In restaurants, for example, "the no-smoking area shall be at least 50% of the seating capacity of the restaurant." In addition, "smoking areas shall be so situated as to effectively eliminate the presence of smoking by-products in non-smoking areas." These requirements are designed, according to the Board of Health, "to protect and improve the health of the residents of the Town of Agawam."

During the last year, I have complained to Mayor Johnson and the Board of Health about the poor regulatory compliance in many of Agawam's restaurants. Several have fewer than 50% of their seats reserved for non-smokers. Some don't even have a non-smoking section, clearly flouting the regulations. For many that have a non-smoking section, they are of little value because the smoke drifts unimpeded from smoking into non-smoking areas.

I wrote to Mayor Johnson earlier this year indicating that none of the restaurants that I complained about had changed anything. He replied, on January 5th, as follows: "The Health Agent investigated each one and reminded the restaurant owners of the Board of Health's regulations. Unfortunately, the Board's regulations are poor and are difficult if not impossible to enforce ... The Health Agent and I plan to encourage the Board to revisit their regulations to consider other options such as increasing the size of no-smoking areas, banning smoking altogether, and/or improving the enforcement mechanisms in the regulations."

Since Mayor Johnson's letter of January 5th, the Board has apparently revisited the regulations because I saw a small article in the *Union News* (February 6th) stating that the Board of Health is considering increasing the size of the non-smoking section of restaurants to 75% of the seats, up from 50%. Such a revision would be laudable, but must be enforced so it doesn't end up like the currently unenforceable 50% requirement.

In this letter, I have intentionally not named the violating restaurants, primarily because I don't feel that many of them fully understand the regulations, or the extent of the physical modifications needed to be brought into compliance.

I will not be as charitable, however, with the one public place that I've complained about because that business is such a flagrant violator. I'm speaking of a business on Southwick Street in Feeding Hills Center. Almost any time that I go there to buy a newspaper, I become nauseated by the thick, acrid smoke encountered upon entering the premises.

Recently, my two adult daughters were in town for a visit and asked me to stop so that they could buy lottery tickets for the \$197 million drawing.

We were near this business, so I stopped there. They went inside and bought their tickets, but said that they would never go in that place again. They felt that it was unconscionable that a place could have such smoky conditions and be open to the general public.

I told them that at this year's State-of-the-City address, Mayor Johnson said that, "Agawam residents live in one of the best communities in the greatest country on earth." My daughters felt that the Mayor might want to take back those words if he was breathing the smoke-filled air inside this business.

**Mike Marieb
Feeding Hills**

'Field Of Nightmares' Is Now A 'Field Of Dreams'

To The Editor:

My "Field of Nightmares" has turned into my son's "Field of Dreams."

The publishing of my letter brought an overwhelming response. The Mayor's Office, the Recreation Department, Councilors, and many parents called to offer their help with my situation.

I am very happy to say that my son is now in the league and will be playing baseball this season. I am most appreciative of the coaches and others that support the league through their generous contribution of both their time and themselves.

After all, without their collective efforts, no children would hear the words ... PLAY BALL!

**Thank-you,
Linda Gamelli
Agawam**

Spaghetti Dinner Raises \$\$\$ For Thermal Imaging Unit

To The Editor:

A sincere "thank you" to the Men's Club of First Baptist Church for sponsoring a delicious Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner to benefit the Thermal Imaging Unit.

Also, many thanks to the people that supported this worthwhile function. The Fire Department and the Agawam Junior Women's Club appreciate all their efforts.

To date, we are within \$5,000 of our target goal of \$21,500. If you have not made your donation, would you consider a gift now? Gifts have been made in memory of loved ones and all gifts will be acknowledged soon.

Please send your donation to the Agawam Helmet Fund, P.O. Box 332, Agawam, MA 01001.

**Thanking you in advance,
Wilma Gillan, Chairperson
Thermal Imaging Unit Fund**

Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Changes On Ch. 766

The Massachusetts Board of Education is moving swiftly to make major changes to the Chapter 766 regulations. The Board will be holding a public hearing to hear comments on the proposed changes.

This hearing has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 27th, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Kasparian Professional Development Center, 60 Alton Street, Springfield, MA.

Major changes to Chapter 766 are now being proposed at two different levels: changes to the Chapter 766 regulations at the State Board of Education, and changes to the Chapter 766 law at the State House.

Some of the major changes proposed in the Chapter 766 regulations include:

- Increased class sizes for early childhood and substantially separate special education classrooms.
- Discretion for administrators to establish separate special education classrooms with unlimited age ranges.
- Eliminate Parent Advisory Councils (PAC) requirement.
- Proposed changes to significantly tighten eligibility, raising serious concerns that the proposed eligibility requirements would deny services to children with disabilities.
- Substantially weaken parent rights to independent evaluations, by moving to the federal requirements without the sliding fee scale option. (If parents request an independent evaluation, the school can either pay for the testing or initiate a hearing to show that the school testing is appropriate.)
- Extend timelines in a manner which could result in undue delays. (A child could wait more than half a school year before receiving services.)
- Elimination of the prototype system and other changes that could result in increased segregation of students with special needs.
- Eliminates any reference to "maximum possible development."
- Proposes major reduction in transportation and discipline rights.

If you have concerns about these changes, you are urged to attend the public hearing on April 27th. What's more, you are encouraged to write to "Special Education Regulations," Massachusetts Department of Education, 350 Main Street, 5th Floor, Malden, MA 02148-5023; Senator Linda J. Melconian, 37 Walnut Street, Agawam, MA 01001; and State Representative Daniel F. Keenan, 342 Springfield Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

ADVERTISER NEWS

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Majority Of School Comm. Approves 4% Spending Plan...

Massoia Finds Funding Inadequate For Special Education & Library Books At Jr. & Sr. High

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

After failing to convince his colleagues to add \$100,000 to next year's school budget, School Committeeman Louis Massoia, Jr. cast the only vote against the \$22.9 million spending plan submitted last month by School Superintendent Frank Ameruso.

Voting in favor of the budget proposal were School Committee Chairman (Mayor) Christopher C. Johnson, Vice-Chairwoman Susan Pettazzoni, and members Teresa Kozloski and Linda Galarneau. Committeewomen Rosemary Sandlin and Roberta Doering were absent.

Johnson said the budget represents a 4.8 percent increase over last year, including 6 1/4 teaching positions, 2 1/2 teaching assistants, \$50,000 in professional development, and \$50,000 in the reserve account.

Having been adopted by the School Committee, the budget now goes to the Mayor's Office for incorporation into the town operating budget. The Mayor can add or cut funding from the School Committee's budget and it is expected that Johnson will present the town budget to Town Council in May for review and a public hearing. The council is allowed to cut, but not to add to, the individual cost centers (departments) that make up the Mayor's budget.

"I'm still going through draft after draft of the town department's budgets, and I'm hopeful there will be funding for technology and the school councils, but I can't guarantee it," Johnson said. "I included \$125,000 in educational technology in next year's capital improvement plan and I will make every effort to include the funding in my capital improvement budget for next year. That's why I included it in the plan."

During the School Committee's discussion, Massoia raised the specter of the possibility of a freeze on supply accounts halfway through next year in order to cover a Special Education budget that is already \$300,000 underfunded.

Director of Special Education John Brosnan said a freeze on supply accounts to cover shortfalls in his department hasn't been necessary for the last three years. However, to illustrate the unpredictability of planning his budget, Brosnan said the number of students (46) covered in the current budget request of \$836,908 for in-state tuition at private schools has grown to 72 as of last week and has the potential to go up to 84 students.

Extremely Conservative

Ameruso said the School Department has been extremely conservative in constructing the budget and can come close to actual cost estimates in most areas, but not in Special Education, where the administration is predicting a shortfall in funding.

"We're not going to be alright. I just don't know how far off we'll be. In the blink of an eye, we can be off \$100,000," Ameruso said.

While they don't know yet just how deeply the shortfall will be felt, school administrators are making some contingency plans, but freezing supply accounts is not under consideration, according to Deputy Superintendent Donald Charest.

Charest is recommending that the committee hold in abeyance \$100,000 in School Choice revenue and \$50,000 from the reserve account to cover cost overruns in Special Education. With children moving in and out of the district every day, Charest said the department is hoping the figures will break even by fall.

Also, Agawam is appealing to the State Department of Education for relief from a \$99,000 tuition bill for one student whose court appointed guardian lives in Agawam.

"Before we get into freezing supply accounts, we will be going back to the town for more money," Charest said.

* * * * *

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

* * * * *

After receiving assurances from the Central Office that the School Committee would be kept closely informed on developments in the Special Education budget, Mrs. Pettazzoni said, "We have a lot of variables going on that may or may not increase costs. I'm going to hold off and wait to hear from you exactly what's needed."

More Prudent To Wait & See

Mrs. Galarneau agreed it would be more prudent to wait and see, particularly since the School Committee has an anticipated \$150,000 earmarked for Special Education shortfalls. But, Mrs. Kozloski said it was the School Committee's prerogative, not the Central Office's, to decide what to do with funds in the reserve account and the school choice account.

"I believe it is justified to increase the Special Ed. budget at this time," Mrs. Kozloski said. "We already know we have this case, so why jeopardize freezing accounts later in the year?"

Massoia was supported solely by Mrs. Kozloski on three motions to add funding for Special Education (\$100,000) and for library books and materials at the Junior High (\$3,000) and High School (\$18,000).

A fourth motion, proposed by Massoia to cut \$21,000 from the High School budget by eliminating the proposed 5/7 physical education teacher, did not receive a second and, therefore, never made it onto the table for a vote.

"Using that money for the Junior High and High School libraries isn't a cure for the ills at the libraries, but it is a step in the right direction," Massoia said.

Although she did not support Massoia's method of finding new funding for the two libraries, Mrs. Kozloski supported Junior High Principal Kevin Littlefield's original request of \$9,000 for library books and materials and voted with Massoia to restore \$3,000 in funding cut during the Central Office budget review process.

"Mr. Littlefield originally asked for \$9,000. Surely, he must have had a plan for that money," Mrs. Kozloski said. "We need a top-notch library if we want a top-notch school district."

Mrs. Kozloski reiterated her position that the High School library books account needs more money to ensure that the new librarian, expected in September, will have the ability to develop and implement a plan to improve the library next year rather than waiting another year for the additional money.

Mrs. Pettazzoni said adding money without a definite plan at the High School "goes against my grain" and she called for a commitment on the part of the School Committee to set priorities for the High School.

Mrs. Galarneau said it would not be prudent to begin dismantling the school budget to add funds for the libraries.

Ceremony To Recognize Borgatti...

Riverside Park To Aid And Upgrade Borgatti Park

Riverside Park has announced plans to aid in the upgrade of Borgatti Park, which is located on River Road about half a mile from Main Street.

"We really want to be a positive presence in Agawam," says Park Spokesperson Jerry Gretzinger. "Borgatti Park is a popular recreation area in Agawam. Upgrading the facility is just another way we can say thank-you to the people of Agawam."

According to Gretzinger, the upgrade will include laying new infield dirt in the softball fields, removing graffiti, picnic benches, barbecue grills, and a new sign at the River Road entrance.

Originally a piece of farmland owned by the Corr family, the Park was named for Ed Borgatti, an Agawam police officer for 32 years. He was an elected member of the Park & Recreation Board from 1960 to 1965.

At that time, the only recreation facility for the town was Shea's Field. The Board felt Agawam needed a facility in the south end of town. While patrolling the Agawam Center/River Road area, Borgatti spotted a piece of farmland owned by the Corr family and felt it would make a great park for the town.

For three years, Borgatti worked hard for Agawam to obtain this land, and (after many town meetings and Finance Board approval) it was purchased by the Town of Agawam. At a Park & Rec. meeting, it was suggested that the parcel be named the Edward G. Borgatti Park.

The Board was unanimous in making this suggestion, since its members believed that Borgatti deserved this recognition on behalf of all of his hard work to make this piece of land available.

This coming Sunday, April 25th, the town's softball leagues will begin their 1999 season at the Park. At 12:00 noon, a ceremony will be held to recognize Borgatti, and officials will be on hand to discuss the planned upgrade.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Auditorium, 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1999 at 6:30 P.M., for all parties interested in the appeal of DOUGLAS DREYER, who is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180-55, Paragraph B-30 of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the creation of a truck terminal at the premises identified as: 55 RAMAH CIRCLE NORTH.

Doreen Prouty,
Acting Chairperson

Published: April 22, 1999

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From Town Council Meeting Of Tuesday, April 20th...

"A Piece Of The News"

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Before adjourning Tuesday night's meeting, Town Council met in executive session with the town solicitor and Mayor Christopher C. Johnson to discuss legal strategy in the latest court decision in the war over the Tuckahoe Turf Farm.

Last week, a Hampden Superior Court jury sided with developer Ralph DePalma, agreeing that the town should have paid \$2.5 million for the 292-acre parcel in 1993.

The town purchased the turf farm for \$1.1 million by exercising its right of first refusal and taking the land by eminent domain after DePalma had negotiated what he considered to be a bargain price for a piece of land that was worth much more if developed, DePalma said.

Under the terms of the court decision, the town now owes DePalma \$1.4 million (the difference between the price the town paid for the land and the actual market value of the property in 1993) plus whatever interest has accrued over the years.

In a series of unanimous votes, the council appointed a new member to the Planning Board; approved two applications for the storage of gasoline and diesel fuel; agreed to several transfers from the salary reserve account to police salary accounts; and okayed a transfer from the reserve fund to the library's telephone account.

Ronald E. LaRiviere of 79 Bradford Drive, Feeding Hills, was appointed to a five-year term expiring January 1, 2004 on the Planning Board to fill the vacancy left in the wake of Frank Lawlor's resignation last year.

LaRiviere, who served as a long-time member and chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals, stated in a memo to the council: "I believe that this experience will enable me to be an effective member of the Planning Board ... I firmly believe that a citizen has no greater privilege than that of serving his or her town. I have done so in the past,

I would like to do so again."

After failing to win the support of the council for his motion to put off making a decision on the aboveground storage of gasoline at Crestview Country Club until the full council was present, Councilor Edward Caba voted with his seven colleagues in giving unanimous approval to applications for fuel storage permits at Crestview and at Lucia Lumber. Councilors Gina Letellier, George Bitzas, and John Negrucci were absent.

Representatives from both businesses said the new tanks they were proposing were required by changes in the state environmental code and that the method for storing the fuel had been designed with safety as the first consideration.

Crestview will use an aboveground storage system to hold 1,000 gallons of gasoline to power the equipment used in maintaining the golf course; Lucia Lumber plans to store a total of 20,000 gallons of fuel in two underground tanks.

Raymond Lucia said one of the tanks will store 10,000 gallons of diesel fuel and the other tank will consist of two separate 5,000-gallon compartments — one for gasoline and one for diesel fuel. Both tanks feature double-walled construction and monitoring systems for leaks and for spills made during the delivery of the fuel by tankers.

"The tanks will be underground for safety reasons due to the nature of our business," Lucia said. "In our application, we have lumber storage and forklifts and moving equipment, so the tanks will be better kept underground."

Fuel in the tanks will be used for equipment at that lumber yard and for Lucia's trucking business.

At Crestview, the ballistics-tested, double-walled tank will sit on a concrete pad surrounded by concrete-filled pipes to prevent the tank from being hit by vehicles, and the area will be surrounded by a six-foot, chain-link fence.

Cost was not a factor in making the decision to locate the tank aboveground, according to Kevin P. Vitale, Crestview's general manager.

"We think it's the best tank because it prevents underground leaks," Vitale said.

In a memo sent to the council late last month, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson requested a transfer of \$54,000 from the salary reserve account to various salary accounts within the Police Department to pay for the first-year increases in the cost-of-living adjustments reached in collective bargaining with Teamsters Local Union 404—Agawam Police Patrol Officers. The new agreement is for a three-year (July 1, 1998 to June 30, 2001) contract with cost-of-living adjustments of 3.3 percent in FY 1999, 3.25 percent in FY 2000, and 3.3 percent in FY 2001.

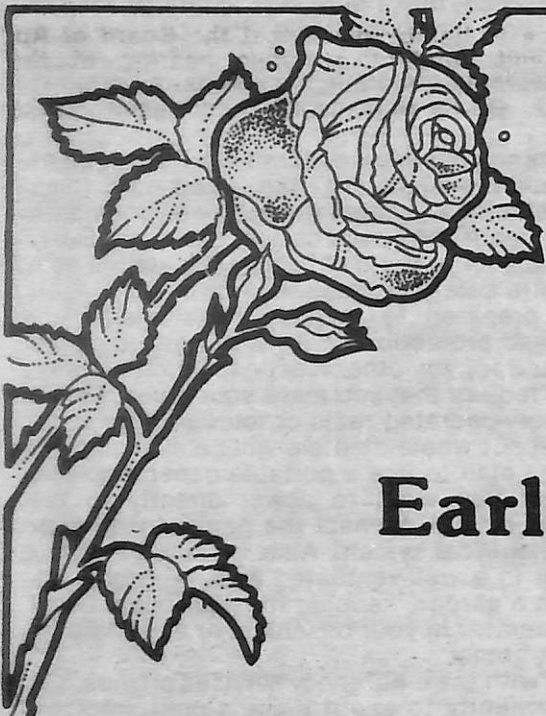
The council previously agreed to fund the transfer to fund the first year of new collective bargaining agreements for the Clerical Union, Administrators Union, Nurses Union, Police Supervisors Union, Building Maintenance Union, and DPW Employees Association.

Negotiations with the remaining collective bargaining unit, the firefighters, are continuing.

The council agreed to transfer \$800 from the reserve fund to the library telephone account requested by Library Director Donna M. Campbell. According to Ms. Campbell, the telephone bill for the library has risen due to an increase in telephone usage for interlibrary loans and for reserve calls.

As for the reason for the transfer, Ms Campbell stated, "Interlibrary loans have increased dramatically and the Agawam Public Library is now a net lender rather than a new borrower, which means that demand for our collection has grown."

All the local news with us ... AAN!!!



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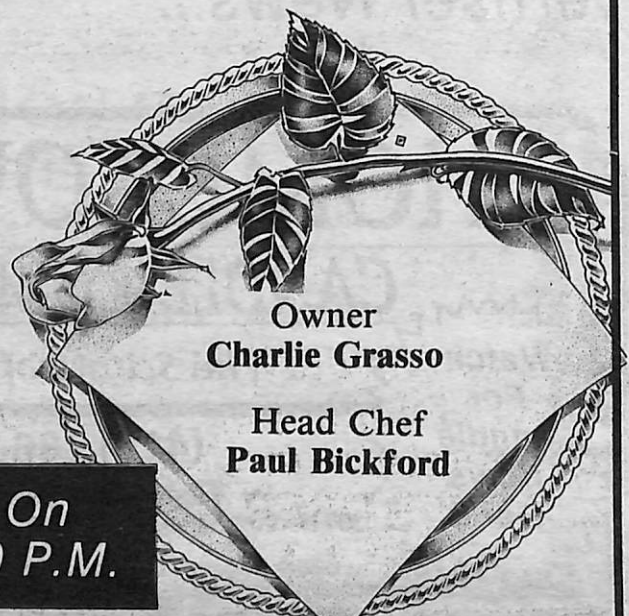
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Veterans' Corner...

by Ruth C. Bitzas
Veterans' Agent — 786-0400, Ext. 236/237

A Dairy-Like Innocence

The Greatest Generation, a best-selling novel by Tom Brokaw, was reviewed in the "Stars and Stripes" by John H. Carroll in their April issue. He writes, "What can a WWII veteran say about Tom Brokaw's new book? Quite simply put, it's an outstanding heartfelt tribute by one of this country's great newsmen to his parents' generation. This book is partly an apologia for the author's own admiration for the veterans of WWII and partly segments about their sacrifices and achievements during and after military service ... Brokaw says his interest in the WWII generation developed as a result of his own coverage of various D-Day remembrance ceremonies.

"... He divides the book into segments ranging from 'Ordinary People' to 'The Arena' about veterans like former President George Bush, former Senator and presidential candidate Bob Dole, and Senator Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii.

"He notes the great diversity of those in uniform. They came from all classes and groups within American society. One was John 'Lefty' Caulfield, who grew up in an Irish-American tenement district near Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass. He served in the U.S. Navy during the war. Afterward he graduated from Harvard and went on to become a high school principal in Cambridge. One of his fondest memories is when he captained the Harvard baseball team that defeated Yale. Another Navy veteran, George Bush, was captain of the Yale team.

"Brokaw does editorialize on the devotion to duty and sacrifices that veterans and their families made in the cause of freedom. He also notes their contributions to society after the war. 'They weren't perfect. They made mistakes. They allowed McCarthyism and racism to go unchallenged for too long,' he admits. In 'Shame,' he criticizes the overt discrimination against minorities in the services."

Concluding his "Acknowledgements," he writes, "Finally to the men and women whose stories I did not get to, I am genuinely sorry, for I have loved them all."

A number of "then and now" photos contribute to this study. Veterans and their families certainly should enjoy his tribute to their efforts as young men and women during and after WWII. It gives one the feeling that it was well worth the effort despite the dangers and difficulties involved in the struggle for a better world.

In a letter written by Bob McKean, Director of State Cemeteries (which includes the Agawam site on Main Street), he notes that, "In his book, Mr. Brokaw relates the story of a WWII veteran who was upset at the way some young individuals were acting during one Halloween night. This veteran spoke to Mrs. Brokaw (Tom's mother) about this. She said, 'They were only 17 and just kids. What were you doing at 17?' He answered, 'I was serving my country in World War II.'" Bob highly recommends the book.

The HONOR ROLL is now posted in the Agawam Town Hall Lobby and in a binder in the Agawam Public Library. What's more, there are change forms included.

If you have any questions about the HONOR ROLL, please call us at 786-0400, extension 236 or 237, or visit our office at Agawam Town Hall.

Ruth C. Bitzas'
"Veterans' Corner"
is a regular feature
of **The Agawam Advertiser News...**

* * *

New Police Officers Sworn In...



AT AGAWAM TOWN HALL last week, six new police officers were sworn in by Town Clerk Richard Theroux (far right). Back row - Joe Kierkla, Mark Holmes, and Al Ingham; front row - Nicole Charette, Mark Duclos, and Meghan Whitney. Looking on are Lieutenant Steven Draghetti and Chief Robert Campbell (far left), and Mayor Christopher Johnson (second from right). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Fire Wise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano

Addressing The "Y2K" Problem (Part 2 Of 2)

In last week's *AAN*, the American Red Cross discussed frequently asked questions surrounding the Y2K controversy. This week, we are publishing a checklist that the American Red Cross has developed in anticipation of the Y2K problem.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO BE PREPARED (Y2K Checklist)

Because no one can be certain about the effects of the Y2K problem, here is a checklist of some easy steps you can take to prepare for possible disruptions. All of these recommendations make good sense, regardless of the potential problem.

- Check with manufacturers of any essential computer-controlled electronic equipment in your home to see if that equipment may be affected. This includes fire and security alarm systems, programmable thermostats, appliances, consumer electronics, garage door openers, electronic locks, and any other electronic equipment in which an "embedded chip" may control its operation.

- Stock disaster supplies to last several days to a week for yourself and those who live with you. This includes having nonperishable foods, stored water, and an ample supply of prescription and nonprescription medications that you regularly use. See *Your Family Disaster Supplies Kit* for suggestions.

- As you would in preparation for a storm of any kind, have some extra cash or traveler's checks on hand in case electronic transactions involving ATM cards, credit cards, and the like cannot be processed. Plan to keep cash or traveler's checks in a safe place, and withdraw money from your bank in small amounts well in advance of 12/31/99.

- As you would in preparation for a winter storm, keep your automobile gas tank above half full.

- In case the power fails, plan to use alternative cooking devices in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Don't use open flames or charcoal grills indoors.

- Have extra blankets, coats, hats, and gloves

to keep warm. Please *do not* plan to use gas-fueled appliances, like an oven, as an alternative heating source. The same goes for wood-burning or liquid-fueled heating devices that are not designed to be used in a residential structure. Camp stoves and heaters should only be used out of doors in a well-ventilated area. If you do purchase an alternative heating device, make sure it is approved for use indoors and is listed with the Underwriters Laboratories (UL).

- Have plenty of flashlights and extra batteries on hand. Don't use candles for emergency lighting.

- Examine your smoke alarms now. If you have smoke alarms that are hard-wired into your home's electrical system (most newer ones are), check to see if they have battery back-ups. Every fall, replace all batteries in all smoke alarms as a general fire safety precaution.

- Be prepared to relocate to a shelter for warmth and protection during a prolonged power outage or if for any other reason local officials request or require that you leave your home. Listen to a battery-operated radio or television for information about where shelters will be available.

- If you plan to use a portable generator, connect what you want to power directly to the generator; do not connect the generator to your home's electrical system. Also, be sure to keep a generator in a well-ventilated area — either outside or in a garage, keeping the door open. Don't put a generator in your basement or anywhere inside your home.

Check with the emergency services providers in your community to see if there is more information available about how your community is preparing for any potential problems. Be an advocate and support efforts by your local police, fire, and emergency management officials to ensure that their systems will be able to operate at all times.

The Agawam Fire Department has received flyers put out by the Red Cross regarding the Y2K bug, and these flyers are available to the public. For further information, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

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— Agawam Obituaries —

Louise Mattoon

Louise (Barbati) Mattoon, 75, of 37 South Florida Drive, Agawam, died recently in a local nursing home.

She was active on community boards for many years, and a greeter at the Agawam Senior Center for three years.

She formerly worked for the Insurance Center in West Springfield for eight years, and for Palmer Goodell Insurance in Springfield for 12 years.

Born in Springfield, she lived in Agawam for 45 years.

She was a board member of the Agawam Housing Authority, a member of the Agawam Republican Town Committee, and chairperson of the Classical High School 1941 Reunion Committee.

She also was a member of the Golden Agers' Club, Chapter II, and a former member of the Agawam Women's Club.

Her husband, Donald H. Mattoon, died in 1988. She leaves a son, Russell of Agawam; a daughter, Marie Kellogg of Agawam; a sister, Evelyn Lodi of Springfield; three grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home and in St. Theresa's Church, with burial in Hillcrest Park Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Agawam Council on Aging, 68 Meadowbrook Manor, Agawam, MA 01001.

He leaves a brother, Andrew G. of Agawam, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at Riverside Cemetery in Shelton. Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Foundation, 2 Mt. Royal Avenue, Suite 200, Marlborough, MA 01752.

Arline G. Servis

Arline G. (Bailey) Servis, 92, of Kathy Terrace, Feeding Hills, died recently in a local nursing home.

She was a self-employed real estate broker for many years.

Born in New Haven, Connecticut, she was a member of Faith United Church.

She also was a member of the Greater Springfield Board of Realtors.

Her husband, Eugene M. Servis, died in 1983. She leaves a son, Kent P. of Feeding Hills; two grandchildren; and a great grandchild.

A graveside service was held in Hillcrest Park Cemetery, Springfield. Forastiere Funeral Home of Springfield was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to Shriners Children's Hospital Donation Department, 516 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

He leaves three daughters, Patricia Oliver of West Springfield, Maureen Skipper of Agawam, and Linda Doyle-Guidetti of San Diego, California; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice of Western New England, 50 Maple Street, Springfield, MA 01102.

Mason R. Brock

Mason Reid Brock, infant son of John Brock and Susan Greco of Feeding Hills, died recently at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He also leaves a sister, Amanda Brock, at home; paternal grandparents, Richard Brock of South Hadley and Constance Moore of Springfield; and maternal grandparents, Carol Greco of Sturbridge and John Greco of Feeding Hills.

A private funeral service was held at Hillcrest Park Cemetery. Forastiere Funeral Home of Springfield was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Western Massachusetts, 1 Armory Street, Springfield, MA 01105.

* * *

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* * *

Henry C. Jorgenson

Henry C. Jorgenson, 88, of Agawam and formerly of 41 Victory Street, Shelton, Connecticut, died recently in a local nursing home.

He retired in 1976 from the Black and Decker Co., previously known as Pop Fasteners, Emhart.

He also worked for the United Shoe Machinery Corp. in Shelton. He was also a bartender at Pinecrest Country Club.

Born in Shelton, he lived there for many years before moving to Agawam four years ago.

He was an avid bowler and a member of several Connecticut bowling leagues.

His wife, the former Livina "Billie" Bayard, died in 1981.

Thomas Doyle

Thomas Doyle, 80, of 14 Wright Street, Agawam, died recently at Baystate Medical Center, Springfield.

He retired from Commercial Distributing, where he was a salesman.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, he was a lifelong resident of Agawam.

He was a member of St. John the Evangelist Church and an active member of the Springfield-Agawam Elks Club.

He was a Coast Guard veteran and served during World War II.

His wife of 52 years, the former Doris Haley, died in 1993.

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Agawam Chamber To Host Neal's Visit On April 30th

Congressman Richard E. Neal will be the guest speaker at a breakfast to be hosted by the Agawam Chamber of Commerce on Friday, April 30th, from 7:15 to 9:00 a.m. at Oak Ridge Country Club.

The Congressman will comment on the major concerns in Washington and will take questions about those issues and others that affect Agawam and the region.

The Chamber will highlight the programs, events, and accomplishments of the past year with a video montage. The annual meeting and breakfast is being sponsored by Western Massachusetts Electric Company.

The incoming board of directors will also be introduced. The officers of the Agawam Chamber board for the 1999-2000 term are President Linda Northup Vitro of David R. Northup Electric; First Vice President Rick Bellico of Woronoco Savings Bank; Second Vice President Donald Anderson of BankBoston; Treasurer Don Rheault of The Message on Hold Network of New England, Inc.; and Clerk Michael Fiorini of Environmental Compliance Services.

Congressman Neal was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1988. He was appointed to serve as a member of the Ways and Means Committee, which is active in creating policies relating to taxation, trade, and welfare.

He is currently a member of the Ways and Means Subcommittees on Trade and Oversight.

Since 1992, Neal has served in a leadership position within the House as an At-Large Democratic Whip.

Agawam's Open Burning Guidelines

The Department of Environmental Protection has designated January 15, 1999 through May 1, 1999 for open burning. Certain guidelines have been established and must be adhered to.

The Agawam Fire Department will issue and monitor each permit on a daily basis. Permits will only be issued weather permitting and only to those locations meeting guidelines.

1. Burning of brush, cane driftwood, and forestry debris will be allowed.

2. No grass, hay, leaves, stumps, paper products, trash of any kind will be allowed. CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED AT ANY TIME.

3. Burning shall take place between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

4. NO COMMERCIAL OR INSTITUTIONAL BURNING PERMITS WILL BE ISSUED.

5. Burning shall be at a location greater than 75 feet from any dwelling or structure.

6. Outside burning for cooking purposes is allowed.

7. NEVER USE GASOLINE TO START THE FIRE.

8. Someone must attend the fire until completely extinguished. Have water supply handy at all times.

ANY FIRE WHICH IS DETERMINED TO BE A HEALTH HAZARD OR NUISANCE, WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE EXTINGUISHED IMMEDIATELY.

All permits will be issued from Fire Headquarters, 800 Main Street, Agawam. The phone number is 786-2662.

PLEASE DO NOT USE THE "911" NUMBER TO CALL FOR PERMITS.



MAYOR CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON recently signed a Proclamation declaring April as "Child Abuse Prevention Month." Looking on are Dee Adams (left), a member of the Agawam Junior Women's Club and chairperson for Advocates for Children, and Cindy Sanford Taylor (right), President of the Agawam Junior Women's Club. There has been a basket at the Agawam Public Library this month with bookmarks and handouts relating to the prevention of child abuse. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Child Abuse Prevention Month PROCLAMATION

Whereas, child abuse is a community problem and finding solutions depends on involvement among people throughout the community;

Whereas, statistics of children who are abused and neglected increase each year;

Whereas, the effects of child abuse are felt by whole communities, and need to be addressed by the entire community;

Whereas, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, religious organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community;

Whereas, youth-serving prevention programs offer positive alternatives for young people and encourage youth to develop strong ties to their community;

Whereas, all citizens should become more aware of child abuse and its prevention within the community, and become involved in supporting parents to raise their children in a safe, nurturing environment;

Now, Therefore, I Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor, do hereby proclaim April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the Town of Agawam and call upon all citizens, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to prevent child abuse, thereby strengthening the community in which we live.

Signed,
Christopher C. Johnson

Regular School Committee Agenda For Tues., April 27th Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street - 7:30 P.M.

1. Call to Order
2. Moment of Silence
3. Citizens' Speak Time
4. Roll Call of Attendance
5. Superintendent's Notes
6. Highlights on Education
7. Old Business
8. Business Meeting
 - a. Routine Matters
 - 1) Approval of Minutes
 - 2) Calendar/Correspondence
 - b. Warrants/Transfers
 - c. Reports
9. New Business

SCR99-21: Dedication of James Clark Media Center in the Name of Julia Crawford
10. Police Review
 - a. Second Reading: Agawam Public Schools Policy Manual
 - b. Third Reading: Agawam Public Schools Policy Manual
 - c. SCR-99-20: Policy Resolution
11. Any other action which may legally come before the Committee
12. Adjournment

State Representative Daniel Keenan Announces House Proposal To Cut Taxes

Massachusetts' taxpayers could see a reduction in their state income tax by the year 2000, according to State Representative Daniel F. Keenan.

Rep. Keenan joined House Speaker Thomas M. Finneran recently to announce the unveiling of a proposal to reduce the income tax from 5.95 percent to 5.75 percent.

This tax cut initiative is consistent with earlier initiatives which give families maximum value and productivity from their hard-earned tax dollars. The proposed reduction would take effect on January 1, 2000, and save the average Massachusetts family \$135 a year.

"Our goal is to reduce costs as aggressively and as prudently as possible while maintaining

the essential priorities and commitments we have adopted for the forward progress of Massachusetts," Rep. Keenan said.

The across-the-board rate cut for every taxpayer is aimed at providing further tax relief to the middle class. The middle class contributes the bulk of revenues in Massachusetts, and often does not qualify for various government programs, benefits, or shelters. The middle class works very hard, and they play and pay by the rules.

"Today's income tax rate reflects our commitment to Massachusetts' taxpayers, as well as investing intelligently in our future," stated Keenan. "In less than a decade, Massachusetts has gone from bottom to top in terms of financial health."

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AGAWAM ANNUAL MEETING & BREAKFAST

Sponsored By Western Massachusetts Electric Company

Please join us to hear our Guest Speaker, U.S. Congressman Richard Neal address legislative issues affecting our local economy.
7:15am-Registration/Coffee
7:30am Breakfast
Annual Review
Salute of New Chamber members



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APRIL 30, 1999
Oakridge Country Club
850 Westfield St.
Feeding Hills



U S Congressman Richard Neal

Richard Neal was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1988 and appointed to serve on the powerful Ways and Means Committee, where he continues to play an active role in creating policies relating to taxation, trade, welfare, health care, and Social Security. He is currently a member of the Ways and Means Subcommittees on Trade and Oversight.

Since 1992, Congressman Neal has served in a leadership position within the House of Representatives as an At-Large Democratic Whip.

Mail or fax this ad to: Agawam Chamber of Commerce, 1441 Main Street, Springfield, MA 01103 or FAX 731-8530

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Agawam Call Firefighters Practice Their Training...



EARLIER THIS MONTH, Mr. Thomas Russo (who owns a vacant house on South Street in Agawam) allowed the Agawam Call Fire Department to train in the house before it was demolished. Under the direction of drill instructor Lieutenant Donald Pisano, the firefighters trained in search and rescue, as well as practiced using the new camera which allows them to see in smoke for rescue efforts and locating fires. This new camera was donated to the fire department by Berkshire Power. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!



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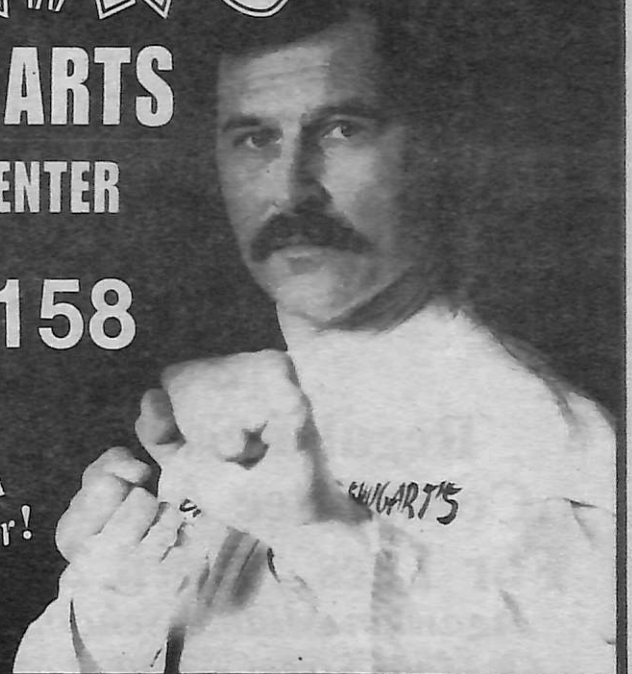
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Families

Pellegrini And Seeley Give Aid To Victims Of Jahn Explosion

by Kathy Shepard
AAN Feature Writer

The Law Firm of Pellegrini and Seeley has donated \$20,000 to the victims of the explosion at Jahn Foundry in Springfield. The industrial accident occurred in February and two workers have died as a result, while 10 other remain hospitalized at various burn units in Massachusetts and Connecticut.

At a press conference hosted by Injured Workers Resources, Leslie Lomason introduced Peter Krawczyk, representative for Injured Workers Resources; Attorneys Donald W. Blakesley and Earlon L. Seeley, Jr. of Pellegrini and Seeley, P.C.; James Alleman, international representative, Glass, Molders, Pottery, Plastic, and Allied Workers International Union; and Richard Brown, president, Pioneer Valley Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

Attorney Blakesley, a former Agawam native, spoke on "The Inadequacies of the Workers' Compensation System" and presented the \$20,000 check to Krawczyk, accepting the contribution on behalf of the Injured Workers Resources (IWR).

The press conference was held at the office of the Western Massachusetts Coalition of Occupational Safety and Health on Wednesday, April 14th, at their Bridge Street office in Springfield.

The press conference was held to call attention to the inadequacies of the workers' compensation system. Pellegrini and Seeley chose to donate the check through the IWR because this organization provides support, assistance, and advocacy for injured workers.

Blakesley addressed the audience, explaining that a reform of the Massachusetts workers' compensation law in the late 1980's was harmful and regressive. "Injured workers and the workers' compensation system were erroneously scapegoated for a bad economy," he said, "reducing weekly benefits for an injured worker by 10 percent, reducing the total over the span of benefits by 40 percent, partial benefits over span of benefits by 60 percent, and many other changes that seriously inconvenience or further traumatize people at a time when they are already overwhelmed with pain, helplessness, financial setbacks, and other frustrations.

"But even more relevant to the Jahn Foundry workers is the change in the law regarding disfigurement. The 1989 reform *eliminated disfigurement benefits for any part of the body other than face, hands, and neck*, along with other changes," said Blakesley.

Most of the victims of the Jahn Foundry explosion have suffered injuries covering the entire torso, yet they will receive no compensation other than their already-reduced weekly benefits, according to him.

Becoming Aware Of The Negative Impact...

This is an opportunity for the public and other workers to become more aware of the negative impact of the 1989 reform. The purpose of the press conference was to highlight the current inadequacies of the Workers' Compensation System in Massachusetts and to underscore the comparatively high profits being reaped by the insurance companies. The insurance companies have had "windfall profits well above the national average," according to a report from a Policy Brief by the Senate Post Audit and Oversight Bureau.

Copies of this report are available by calling Senator Cheryl Jacques, chairwoman of the Senate Post Audit and Oversight Committee, at (617) 722-1555. The report actually shows that the profits of insurers in Massachusetts were more than twice the national average.

A *Boston Globe* article, dated February 9, 1999, by Meg Vaillancourt, reports that, "Massachusetts insurers are making huge profits on workers' compensation insurance at the expense of business owners and workers, according to a legislative study released yesterday."

After the check was accepted by Krawczyk for IWR, it was given to Richard Brown on behalf of the Glass, Molders, Pottery, Plastic, and Allied Workers International Union. James Alleman, International Representative of this entity, spoke earlier to thank Pellegrini and Seeley and IWR for their assistance. Alleman accepted the check, in turn, on behalf of the Jahn Foundry workers.

A question-and-answer session followed, and several good inquiries resulted; for example, whether any of the Jahn workers had initiated lawsuits. The consensus was that these workers and their families are suffering the more immediate consequences of trauma, as many of them still remain in serious, life-threatening conditions, Blakesley noted.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Peter Krawczyk, Leslie Lomason, and Attorney Donald Blakesley (formerly of Agawam and an Agawam High School graduate) at the recent press conference where the Law Firm of Pellegrini and Seeley donated \$20,000 to the Jahn Foundry accident victims (by way of the Injured Workers Resources).

Swk. Women's Club Slates One-Woman Show At Town Hall

Southwick: A fundraiser will be held at the Town Hall Auditorium, College Highway on Wednesday, April 28th at 7:30 p.m.

Entertainment will be provided by Carol Pedigree and her one-woman show with vintage hats, clothing, and songs.

Tickets are \$8 from club members or call Donna at 569-6317. All proceeds from Women's Club fundraising are used for Southwick community projects.

Agawam Women's Club Slates Annual Mtg. For April 26th

The Agawam Women's Club will hold their Annual Meeting on Monday, April 26th, at the Captain Leonard House.

Social hour will commence at 6:00 p.m. and buffet will be served at 6:30.

Following dinner, our president will conduct the business meeting and annual reports will be read. There will also be an installation of officers for the 1999-2000 season.

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Mom And Daughter Have A "Close-Knit Relationship"

by Kathy Shepard
AAN Feature Writer

Love Ashton of Agawam and her daughter Denise Barnett, also of Agawam, are unusually close. It could even be said that they are "close-knit." We first heard from Denise, who quietly called our offices to ask if we could do a story about her mom, who began knitting hats for cancer patients when she, Denise, was battling breast cancer.

On the same day, we heard from Mrs. Ashton (Denise's mother), who wanted to give some credit to the women who had been helping her to knit these hats, which go to cover heads that have lost hair, during one of the most difficult times for many patients. Mrs. Ashton was completely unaware that Denise had called us that very same day, but she proceeded to tell us what a brave person Denise has been.

Denise was diagnosed with two different kinds of cancer at one time, went through chemotherapy, lost all her hair, then later had a heart attack. Not long after that, one of the cancers returned and she lost a breast. But she finds joy in living, helps battered women (which she used to be), and recently got married.

Denise now works at New Beginnings in Westfield, a place she discovered in 1990 because of a violent husband who harmed her and her son repeatedly (before Denise devised a plan to escape from him). This area of human behavior is baffling until one is confronted with it. In her case, his threats to find her, wherever she went, and do much worse harm, prevented her from leaving. Finally, with help, she managed to remove herself and her son from the situation.

Guidance From New Beginnings...

The plan was successful, with a lot of guidance from New Beginnings. After two fearful years of being discovered, Denise was relieved in a way when he passed away. Now she works with women in the same situation, helping them to break away, and one of the most important things to Denise is that women who have been battered learn how to break the cycle of low self-image that allows them to accept physical punishment. They can free themselves and it is important to Denise to help.

The other important goal for Denise is to reach other women with breast cancer, and to tell them that life does go on. Losing a breast can seem like the end of the world, but it does not have to be, she told us. Getting diagnosed and treated is of tremendous importance, and focusing on the future is critical.

In 1995, Denise noticed a lump in her breast. She went to the doctor, had a biopsy, and was told that it was malignant. (She cannot understand to this day why this news was given to her over the phone.) There was a lumpectomy after Christmas, which involved a one- or two-day stay.

Her sister checked all options, especially on the Internet, and Denise chose to have chemotherapy. She would lose all of her waist-length hair, which was blonde. Mrs. Ashton said that Denise smiled through the entire experience, except when she lost her hair. "It was the only time she cried," Mrs. Ashton remembers.

Denise learned that the hair keeps in warmth and losing it makes a person colder, but she wore

SEE HATS - Page 15...



IN LEFT PHOTO: Agawam residents Denise Barnett and her mother, Love Ashton. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Denise Barnett holds one of the hats that were made for cancer patients.

Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



MEMBERS OF THE HAT-MAKING GROUP: Thelma Kerr, Chieko Rivers, Muriel Fearn, Lillian Haidemenos, Bernice Burton, Edith Michaud, and Love Ashton. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

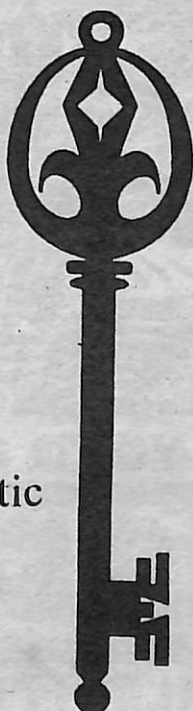
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HATS - from Page 14...

a baseball cap at first because it wasn't winter then. It was when it began to get chilly again that Mrs. Ashton noticed an article about a woman who knitted hats for chemotherapy patients. She wrote for the instructions and soon had a group of women to help her.

The hats most recently made total 32, with "more to come," according to her. They are going to Janice Conegallo at Baystate Medical Center Oncology Department; Stacy Phaneuf at Look Better - Feel Better, a woman's center in West Springfield where hairdressers, cosmetologists, and other such professionals help women to look and feel better about themselves "after chemo"; and to Barbara Smith at the American Cancer Unit in Connecticut. (Barbara is a friend of Denise and another cancer survivor.)

Members Of The Hat-Making Group...

Most of the hat-making group is from the Agawam United Methodist Church, and one lady is from the Feeding Hills Congregational Church.

Two of the women in the hat-making group are also cancer survivors. "Hats for Hugs" is the name of the organization from which Mrs. Ashton got the instructions.

Begun by a woman named Sandy Miner, founder of "Warm the Baby" and "Hats with Hugs," the hats total over 10,000, all made by volunteers like the ones working with Mrs. Ashton. For information on hat-making for chemotherapy patients, Mrs. Ashton can be reached at 786-1317.

Denise has experienced still more trials since the chemotherapy. She had a heart attack in 1997. Then, not long after, she was diagnosed again with cancer. This time she decided on mastectomy. But her outlook is amazing. "I'm still here," she chirps.

Again with her family's help, she learned that there are many choices in such a procedure. She chose to have her breast rebuilt from part of her own abdomen, a lengthy process. During the

operation, Denise's fiancé kept saying, "I love her anyway - she doesn't have to do all that for me," according to Mrs. Ashton.

Denise was wed soon after this and seems content. She works at the place that helped her when she was in the abusive marriage - New Beginnings.

If Denise could stress anything to other women, it would be to get away from situations that lower self-esteem, and if diagnosed with cancer, act right away and try to keep it in perspective. "Don't wait" are her words of advice.

Denise, Mrs. Ashton, and the rest of Denise's family have become closer through the experience and, as a result, are helping many other people in a lot of special ways. This is one relationship that can be called "very close-knit."

Mrs. Ashton is so proud of how Denise has handled all of this. And Denise says of her mother, "I have a great mother. I could never have gotten through all of this without her."

— Check our classified ads in each edition —

Shrine Clowns Love To Entertain

The heart and soul of the circus are the clowns. The majority of those you see in the Shrine Circus are your friends and neighbors, who are members of the Melha Shriners, and in particular, are members of the Melha Shrine Clown Unit.

The make-up and costumes of each clown is of his own design, and in many cases, their face make-up is registered in the Northeast Clown Association and may not be used by any other clown.

During the circus, the clowns are all over the Coliseum, and the Coliseum grounds, talking with the children, autographing their programs books, and posing for pictures. They also take part in the circus itself, by participating in original clown skits that they have developed from circus year to circus year.

Join the Shrine Clowns at the annual Shrine Circus at the Eastern State Coliseum, West Springfield, April 29th, 30th, May 1st, and May 2nd. For information, call the Shrine Circus Box Office, (413) 787-0198.

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Basic Checking

This is a great starter account. There's no minimum balance required and for just \$3.00 a month, you can write up to ten checks. If your pay check or government check is direct deposited into your account, there is no monthly fee. What's more, you get ATM access to your account - with no fees at Westfield Bank.**

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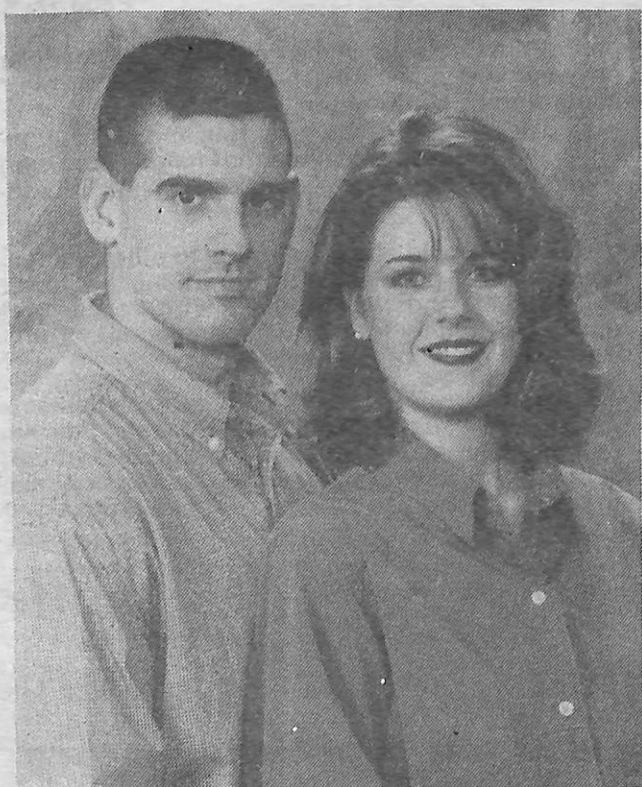


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ERIC D. BURNETT & KARA SUZANNE SANDERS

Kara Suzanne Sanders Engaged To Wed Eric D. Burnett

Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Marks of Martinsburg and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Sanders of North Carolina, announce the engagement of their daughter, Kara Suzanne Sanders, to Eric D. Burnett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Burnett of Agawam.

Sanders is a 1991 graduate of Martinsburg High School and a graduate of the Hagerstown Junior College. She is attending Shepherd College, majoring in education. She is currently employed as a Real Estate Agent for Greentree Realty of Shepherdstown, West Virginia.

Burnett is a 1989 graduate of Agawam High School and a 1993 graduate of Westfield State College. He has a bachelor's degree from Westfield State College in criminal justice, and also an associate's degree from Marshall University in police science.

He served as a Correctional Officer for the Connecticut Department of Correction after college, and is currently assigned to the Martinsburg State Police Department as a West Virginia State Trooper.

A May 22, 1999 wedding is planned at the Trinity Episcopal Church in Martinsburg, West Virginia.

Shriners Parade Will Kick-Off Annual Circus

On Thursday, April 29th at 6:00 p.m., the Shriners will be parading from the Century Shopping Center, down Memorial Avenue, to the Eastern States Coliseum in West Springfield.

The Shrine Circus will officially open with the Grand Entry of the Melha Shrine Parade Units into the Eastern States Coliseum, West Springfield, at 6:45 p.m. This year's Shrine Circus has something for children of all ages, from our giant opening Day Shrine Parade, to the fantastic farewell of the circus performers.

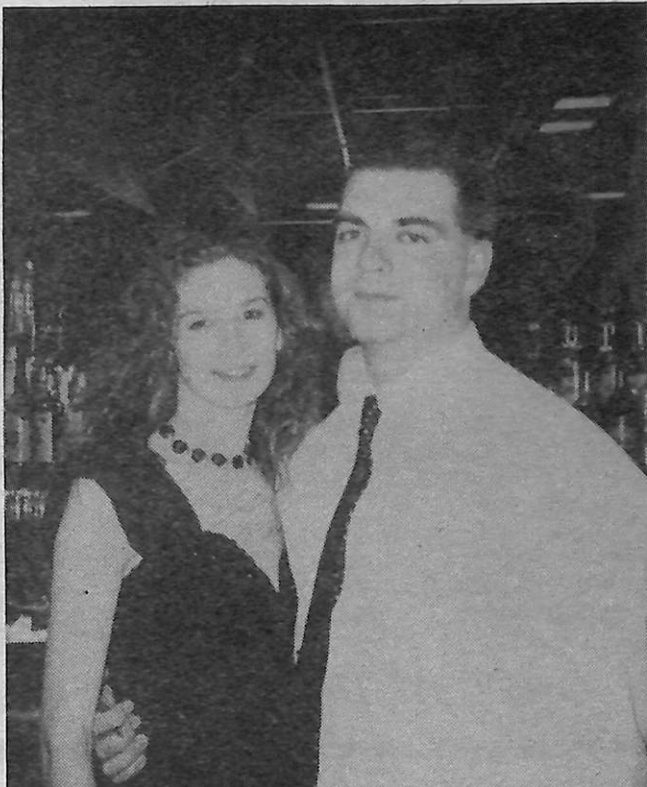
Performance days and times are as follows: Thursday, April 29th, 7:00 p.m.; Friday, April 30th, 7:00 p.m.; Saturday, May 1st, 10:00 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, May 2nd, 1:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m.

For further information, call the Shrine Circus Box Office, (413) 787-0198.

The
Agawam Permanent
Firefighters Association
will be sponsoring an
"Oldies Show"
starring
"Beetlemania"

on Saturday, June 26, 1999 at 7:30 PM
at Agawam High School,
and will be soliciting
businesses & residences.
The proceeds will support
the betterment of the organization.

The Agawam Permanent Firefighters
Association members would like to
thank all supporters for their generosity.



JENNIFER VINESETT & THOMAS BURGER, JR.

Jennifer A. Vinesett Engaged To Wed Thomas R. Burger, Jr.

Kathy Vinesett of Agawam and Michael Vinesett of Blandford announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer A. Vinesett, to Thomas R. Burger, Jr. Thomas is the son of Donna Theroux of Ludlow and Thomas Burger of Fairfax, Virginia. The wedding is planned for August 28, 1999.

The future bride graduated from Agawam High School. She will be receiving an associate's degree in criminal justice from Holyoke Community College this spring. She is employed at Northampton District Court as a Courtroom Procedure Clerk.

Her fiancé graduated from Chicopee Comp High School. He has an associate's degree in criminal justice and a Massachusetts State EMT Certification. He is employed at Shutesbury and Leverett Police Departments and also works for the Hampden County Sheriff's Department.

A NOTICE REGARDING WEDDING, ENGAGEMENT, AND BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS: If you want your photo returned to you, please submit a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your announcement. Otherwise, we ask that you come to our office to pick it up. Thank you ... AAN!!!



SCOTT G. SIMPSON, SR. & KEELY L. HATFIELD

Keely L. Hatfield Engaged To Wed Scott G. Simpson, Sr.

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth R. Wojcik of Henry St., Feeding Hills, along with Mr. & Mrs. Richard H. Hatfield of Pittsburgh, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Keely L. Hatfield to Scott G. Simpson, Sr., the son of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph W. Simpson, Sr. of North Ft. Myers, Florida.

Keely attended and graduated from Willie Ross School For The Deaf in 1987, North Regional in 1991, and Caregivers School in 1998 with a certification in Nursing Asst. and Home Health Aide. She is currently employed at Expert Care of West Springfield in the Nursing Asst. field.

Scott attended and graduated from Clarke School For The Deaf in 1987, Longmeadow High School in 1990, and attended two years at Keene College in the Business Management field from 1990 to 1992. He is currently employed at Phoenix Home Life Insurance Co. of Enfield, Connecticut in the Shipping and Receiving Department.

They plan to marry on September 4, 1999 in Agawam. Shannon Regnier-Rivera and Leah Kelly will attend as her matrons of honor. Amy Pardee and Julie Plankey will attend as her bridesmaids. Kristen Hatfield will attend as her junior bridesmaid. Anna Pelissier will attend as his honor person.

Wayne Simpson will attend as best man. David Perguidi and Paul Taylor will attend as ushers. Scott G. Simpson, Jr. will attend as ringbearer.

— ADVERTISER NEWS —

CALABRESE FARMS

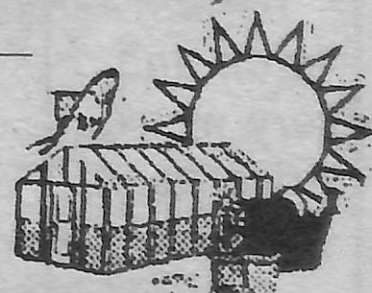
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Dedication Of Music Library/Equipment Slated At Senior Ctr.

Plans are being made for a dedication of the music library and equipment that has been donated to the Agawam Senior Center through the generosity of Fran Brunell, wife of the late Arthur Brunell.

Mr. Brunell was the leader of the Melody Band at the Senior Center from 1991 until November 1998. In addition to directing rehearsals and making arrangements for the group's performances, he played bass, harmonica, and performed some of the vocals.

The dedication will take place at the Senior Center on Thursday afternoon, April 29th during the performance of the Senior Center Variety Show that will take place on that day at 2:00 o'clock. Mrs. Brunell will be present.

Mr. Brunell was also active in many other musical activities throughout the Western Mass. and Northern Conn. area and was a highly respected musician who gave a great deal of his time to the local group.

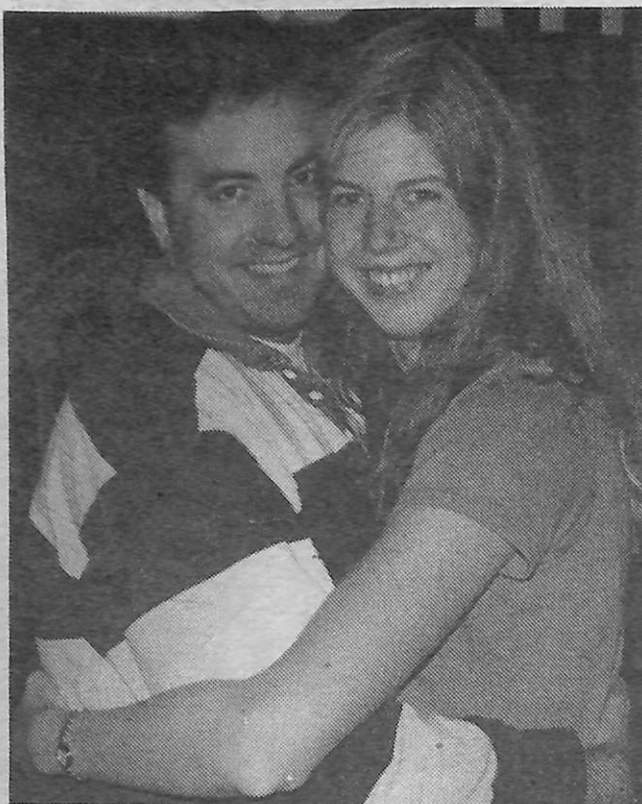
The donation of his music library includes many books of popular music and sheet music representing thousands of songs along with the file cabinet used to hold them. In addition to the music, equipment, including a music stand, microphone, crows, and an amp/speaker unit, was also donated.

These materials have been brought to the Center and will be available for the band's continued use as well as any of the other programs or groups at the Senior Center.

* * *

There is no charge to submit wedding, engagement, and birth announcements in The AAN...

* * *



JOHN R. WELCH & ALISSA A. PRITCHARD

Alissa A. Pritchard Engaged To Wed John R. Welch

John and Barbara Welch of Feeding Hills announce the engagement of their son, John Robert Welch, to Alissa Ann, daughter of John and Holly Pritchard of San Rafael, California.

Alissa, a 1991 graduate of Terra Linda High School, received a B.A. in Computer Science from the University of California at Berkeley and an M.S. in Computer Science from Stanford University. She is employed as a Senior Web Developer at Snap/CollegeEdge in San Francisco, California.

John, a 1988 graduate of Agawam High School, received a B.S. in Math/Computer Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge and an M.S. in Computer Science from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

He is employed at SegaSoft Networks, Inc. in San Francisco as Product Manager for the Dreamcast Network, the Online component of SEGA's forthcoming Dreamcast Game Console.

The wedding will take place on October 9th in San Rafael, California with a reception following in Sonoma, California. Upon returning from their honeymoon trip to the Greek Islands, their wedding will be celebrated with a party held at Chateau Provost in Chicopee.

"Spring Fashion Show" Sponsored By Spfld. Business And Professional Women's Club

The Springfield Business and Professional Women's Club will be sponsoring a "Spring Fashion Show" on Tuesday, May 18th, at 5:30 p.m. at Chez Josef, Shoemaker Lane, Agawam.

The emcee for the show will be Brenda Garton of WWLP-TV22, and the fashions will be provided by Simply Elegant, Fran Johnson's Nevada Bob's, and J.C. Penney.

The proceeds from this event will benefit the Springfield Business and Professional Women's Club's scholarship fund.

The ticket price is \$26 per person, which includes dinner and the show. Reservations are due by Tuesday, May 11th.

For tickets and/or further information, call Cecilia P. Calabrese at 786-4731 or 789-7654, or Dee Ferrero at 789-0700.

* * * * *

For photo coverage in The AAN, please call photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053.

* * * * *

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Spfld. Turnverein Celebrates Its 144th Anniversary

The Springfield Turnverein recently celebrated its 144th Anniversary with a dinner and dancing at the club.

Two members received "gold cards" for 40 years of membership. They are Martin Lehberger and Franz Luetz.

Certificates for 25 years of membership were awarded to the following: Robert Alden, Alice Astaldi, Robert Brock, Donald Clark, Paul Dithrich, Robert Littlefield, Richard Loos, Helene Porada, and Arno Wagner.

Several long-time members in attendance were recognized: Walter Groll and Karl Hilbig, 41 years; Erika Baron, 44 years; Alfred Hellinger, 45 years; Frederick Groll and Harry Zimmerman, 48 years; Alfred LaBaff and William Beaman, over 50 years; and Raymond Guenther, 66 years.

A special Honor Award was presented to Wilma Gillan for extraordinary service to the club over the past 30 years. She has served on the Board of Trustees in several capacities, including second vice-president, entertainment chairman, and currently as editor of the club newsletter.

She is a member of the Ladies' Glee Club and has served as secretary for over 25 years. She serves as president of the Ladies' Auxiliary and chairs the annual Fishing Derby and other special events.

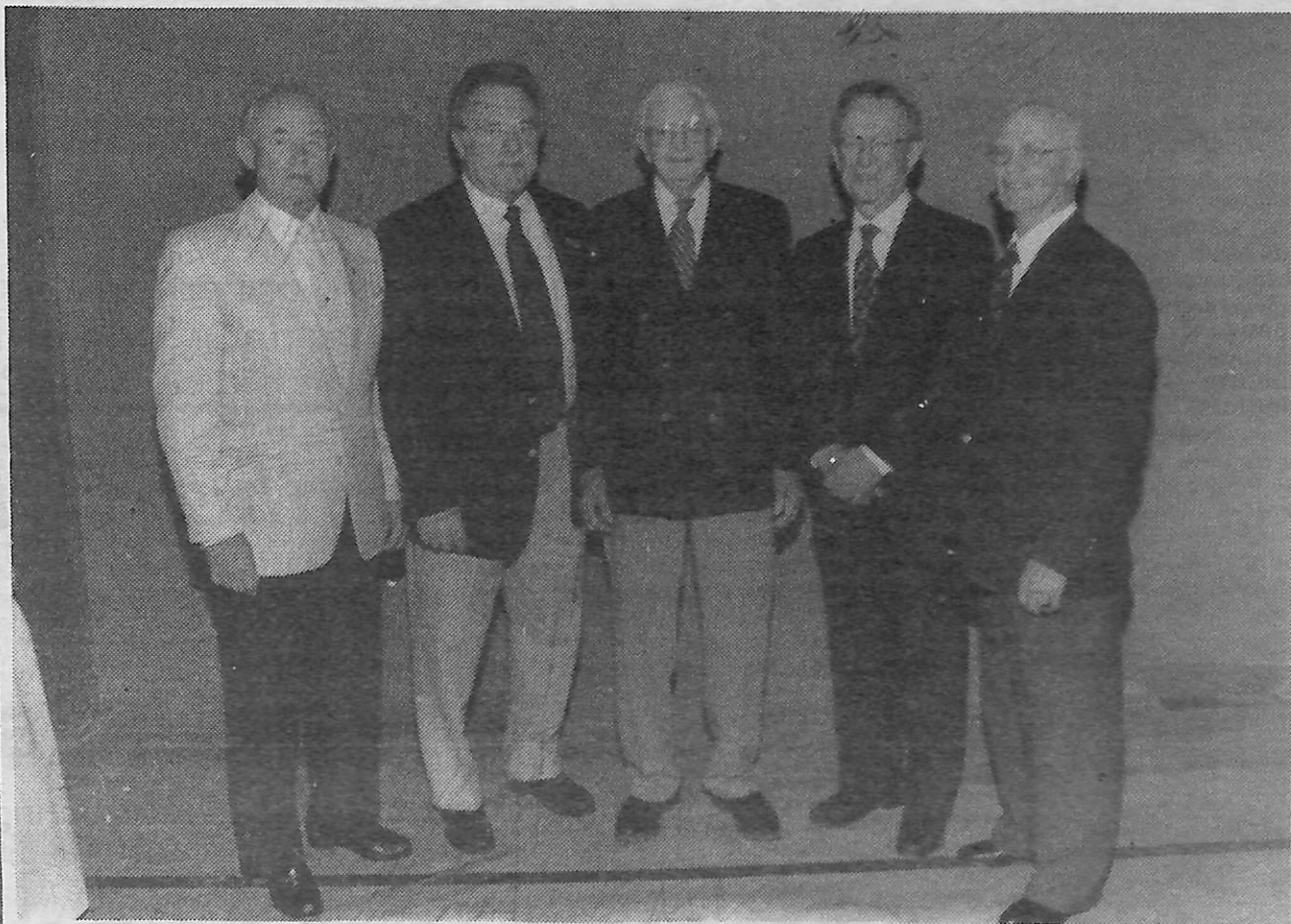
The evening was complete with the music of Leo Murawsky.



AMONG THOSE WHO ATTENDED the Springfield Turnverein's 144th anniversary dinner/dance were the following club members (from left to right): Kurt Walther, Don Clark, Bob Brock, Alice Astaldi, Paul Dithrich, and Robert Alden. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

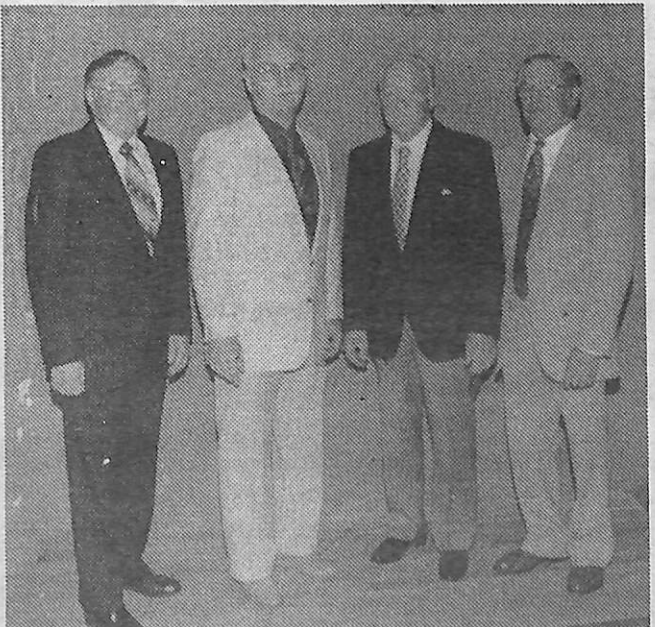


WILMA GILLAN, who was presented with a special Honor Award for her extraordinary service to the Springfield Turnverein during the past 30 years. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



LONG-TIME SPRINGFIELD TURNVEREIN MEMBERS who were recognized at the anniversary dinner/dance (from left to right): Alfred Hellinger (45 years), Fred Groll (48 years), Raymond Guenther (66 years), William Beaman (59 years), and Alfred LaBaff (54 years).

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



AT THE SPRINGFIELD TURNVEREIN'S anniversary dinner/dance (from left to right): Harry Zimmerman, Martin Lehberger, Tranz Luetz, and Kurt Walther. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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Agawam

*Salamander Crossing & Sean Altman
To Headline Summer Series...*

Tentative Schedule Slated By Agawam Cultural Council

With spring already here, summer can't be far behind.

In what is quickly becoming one of the region's best-known ongoing music festivals, the Agawam series has set its stage for 1999. Several acts are back from past years and will complement some great new nationally known groups.

According to Mike Grandfield of the Agawam Cultural Council, "With our past success, the series' popularity has now gotten us to the point where national acts are seeking us out. This has enabled us to get some bands that we simply could not have attracted in the past."

Back again this year are bluegrass-inspired Salamander Crossing, local favorite Brass Attack, and what has become an opening tradition, Ritchie Mitnick and Troupe. Both Los Angeles-based Dogwood Moon and New York City's Sean Altman are scheduled for August.

Dogwood Moon has been included on several major motion picture soundtracks, while readers may know Sean Altman from his days with "Rock-a-pella" and PBS's "Where in the World is Carmen San Diego?"

Hartford's "Souled Out" Motown review and the Latin-influenced "Viva Quetzal" also help round out the schedule. Heavy-duty rock-and-roll fans will enjoy the area's hottest group, "The Stone Coyotes," who have just returned from Los Angeles after touring with acclaimed novelist Elmore Leonard.

As in the past, the series will also include three "drive-in" movie presentations. According to Grandfield, "The movies really started to take off last year. People started bringing their couches and chairs from home, and it turned into a big, family-oriented party. Veterans' Green started to look like a big living room with a really big TV."

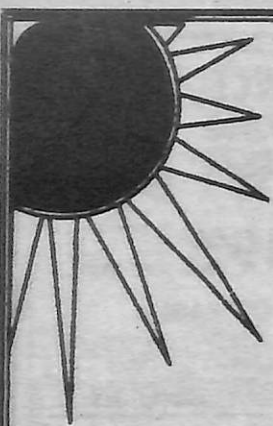
The schedule dates and full schedule will be announced in June. Anyone seeking information should call 789-4850.

The summer series is co-sponsored by the Agawam Cultural Council and the Agawam Rotary Club, with funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and various corporate contributors.

* * *

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Karen L. Mahoney Engaged To Wed Calvin C. Fletcher

Mr. & Mrs. Paul T. Mahoney of 13 Kathy Terrace, Feeding Hills, are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Karen L. Mahoney, to Mr. Calvin C. Fletcher of 249 Quarry Rd., West Springfield, son of Mr. & Mrs. William Kendzierski of Becker, Mass. and Mr. Richard Fletcher of Orlando, Florida.

Ms. Mahoney is a graduate of St. Mary's High School in Westfield. She graduated cum laude from Elms College in Chicopee. She is employed as a Social Worker for Multicultural Community Services in Springfield.

Mr. Fletcher is a graduate of West Springfield High School. He is the Owner-Operator of Fletcher Air Heating and Cooling of West Springfield.

Family Photo Session At Senior Center

A fun-filled fundraiser for senior citizens will be held April 27th and 28th from 3:00-9:00 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center.

Bring the whole family to this AP Photo session. Donation is \$29.95; \$19.95 for children.

This multi-pose photo session includes makeover, hairstyling, wardrobe and accessory changes (bring your favorite outfit, too), and a FREE 8"x10" photo.

Limited appointments are available. Reserve yours today! Call Mary at 786-3447.

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, April 26th: New dish — Pizza tot casserole, cool-as-a-cucumber salad, grapes.

Tuesday, April 27th: Strip steak with peppers and onions, cheese baked potatoes, oatmeal bread, brownie.

Wednesday, April 28th: Chicken paprika pie, pickled carrot salad, whole wheat bread, jello and fruit.

Thursday, April 29th: Liver and onions, baked potatoes, stewed tomatoes, pumpkin bread, pears.

Friday, April 30th: New dish — Crab bisque soup, tuna sandwich, garden salad, baked custard.

(Menu subject to change without notice.)

* * * * *

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays.

* * * * *

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Church News



Reflections...

submitted by

Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the New Life
Christian Church,
Suffield, CT
(413) 789-1377 or
toll free (877) 643-9801

What's The Big Deal About Jesus?

Every now and then, I encounter someone who asks, "What's the big deal about Jesus? Isn't it enough to believe in God? Why can't you be normal, rather than always emphasizing Jesus?"

That challenge does have some appeal, because most of us would like to fit in with the society we live in. Whereas a deep-rooted belief in God is generally acceptable, a deep commitment to Jesus often isn't.

The problem is that a vague faith in a distant and unknown God is useless. Faith should fill us with **boldness and confidence**, since by it **we have access to God**. Our faith should give us power for living.

However, the Bible describes some people **holding to the outward form of godliness but denying its power**. These people have a vague faith in God. Vague faith might have appeal when things are going okay, but such faith belongs to the **foolish man who built his house on sand**. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was its fall!

Faith which believes in God in some vague way rather than knowing God personally through Jesus Christ is disconnected from the promises of God. Hear what God says to each of us: **But now thus says the Lord, He who created you, He who formed you, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be**

burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

We should ask ourselves, "Do the promises of God mean anything to me personally?" Our answer would speak volumes about our faith. Vague faith is at variance with God as He is described in the Bible; real, personal, aware, and involved in our lives.

There are really only two kinds of people in this world. There are people who are loved by God and know it. Then, there are people who are loved by God, but don't know it.

Generally speaking, these two people groups cannot be distinguished by the circumstances of their lives. What can be distinguished is the kind of faith people have.

People with vague faith tend to fall apart under pressure, and wind up becoming bitter because of adversity. People who know they're loved by God can draw their strength from Him, and survive.

The Bible says **no testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone**. Waters, rivers, fires. The kind of bad things we'd all like to avoid. God doesn't promise anyone a rose garden; quite the opposite if we read the passage above. But God does promise His people that **He will not let you be tested beyond your strength**.

How can we go from being people with vague faith to being people with powerful faith? It's not too hard to do. We simply need to move beyond knowing about God to knowing God Himself, personally. Jesus said, **"I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. If you know Me, you will know My father also."**

By accepting Jesus Christ as our own personal Lord and Savior, we can put ourselves in a position to be powerfully blessed by God.

Each of us has a choice to make, between a vague faith which will not stand up to the tests of life, and a powerful faith which we can obtain by trusting in Jesus.

Through Jesus you have come to trust in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. That is what the big deal about Jesus is all about.

News And Notes From F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Our Sunday morning service of worship begins at 10:00 a.m.

We will welcome Ms. Clarice Mitchell as our guest speaker this Sunday.

Rev. Donaldson and several members of our congregation will be attending the 200th Anniversary Celebration of the Massachusetts Conference, which is being held in Worcester, MA.

The lectionary readings for the fourth Sunday of Easter will be Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10.

Children are invited to attend worship with their parents, leaving at a designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

While you do your spring cleaning, please keep in mind that the Board of Christian Education will be sponsoring a tag sale here on Saturday, May 22nd, beginning at 8:00 a.m.

The event will also include a bake sale and car wash.

All members will receive notice in the mail of an upcoming special meeting to be held immediately following the worship service on Sunday, May 2nd.

If you do not receive the information, please check the bulletin board or call the church office.

There will be a meeting of the Big E Committee on Friday, April 30th, at 7:30 p.m.

On Sunday, June 6th, immediately following the worship service, we will have a buffet luncheon to be followed by a Church Mission Statement meeting. Start thinking about the direction you would like this congregation to take, and save the date to meet together for discussion.

More details will be found in this month's newsletter.

On the calendar:
Friday, April 23rd: 6:30 p.m., Set up for shower.
Saturday, April 24th: 3:00 to 8:00 p.m., Shower.
Sunday, April 25th: 8:00 a.m., Bus leaves for MACUCC Bi-Centennial Celebration at Worcester Centrum; 10:00 a.m., Worship Service.
Monday, April 26th: 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts.
Tuesday, April 27th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.
Wednesday, April 28th: 4:00 p.m., Girl Scouts; 6:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Choir.
Thursday, April 29th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Breast Of Chicken Supper Slated For May 1st At Agawam United Methodist Church

The Agawam United Methodist Church invites one and all to a stuffed breast of chicken supper. This supper will have potatoes, peas, and home-prepared desserts. Of course, there will be coffee, tea, milk, and punch for all to please.

The supper will be served between the hours of 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 1st. Reservations may be made by calling 786-5690, although walk-ins will be welcome.

Anyone who is shut-in and would like one of

these meals should also call 786-5690 and make it known they wish their meal to be delivered. Costs are \$7 for adults, and \$3 for children 12 and under.

The Agawam United Methodist Church is located at 459 Mill Street, Agawam, where it holds church services at 9:30 p.m. And, like its suppers, all are welcome, but especially those of you who have not been attending any church lately.

Thank you for attending.

'Church News' is a regular feature of The AAN.



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9:30 A.M. - Sunday School
10:30 A.M. - Morning Service

Series - "Biblical Portraits"
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6:00 P.M. - Evening Services
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6:30 - 8:30 P.M. - Awana Clubs Youth Program

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Church News - continued...

"Story Time With Mickey & Minnie"...

ON APRIL 10TH FROM 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., "Story Time with Mickey and Minnie and Friends" was held at the Agawam Congregational Church in Agawam. On hand were many Agawam Junior Women's Club members who dressed in costumes and read a variety of books to the children. The children had cookies and punch, and a good time was had by all. The club members hope to do this again next year with possibly some new costumes. IN LEFT PHOTO: Dee Adams, Chrissie Metcalf, Lisa Hersey, Carrie Reed, Wendy Lieberman, and Cindy Sanford Taylor. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Liz Taylor, Sue Godfrey, Eva Jack, Terri Luvera, Rosalie Dialessi, and Dawn Hersey. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Benefit Pancake Breakfast At Valley Community Church

The Valley Community Church Sunday School will sponsor a Benefit Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, April 24th from 8:00-10:00 a.m. in Dunn Hall of the Valley Community Church, 152 S. Westfield St., Feeding Hills.

The breakfast will consist of pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, muffins, juice, coffee, tea, and hot chocolate. The price is \$4.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children under 12.

All proceeds from this event will go to pay the moving expenses of our new full-time minister, Pastor Gene de Jongh, his wife, Claire, and their boys, Christopher and Nate.

Please join us. For more information, call (413) 786-2445.

Weekly Calendar Of News And Notes From St. John's Parish In Agawam

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

First Communion will be May 8th.

Religious education classes for this academic year have come to a close (except for First Communion). We thank all those teachers and teachers' aides who gave so much of their time to help with this vital parish program.

Likewise, we are grateful to the parents who made this an important part of their child's life, when there are so many pressures pulling in other directions.

CLOWNS WANTED

The Parish Picnic will be coming up in August. We are preparing already and looking for anyone who would like to develop the little "bit of clown" which is in all of us.

Interested in a rudimentary course and even learning the animal balloon craft? Just call

Mariann Green at 593-5764.

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

With springtime comes the annual nomination and election of one-third of the Parish Council (five members for a three-year term).

The Nominating Committee is soliciting names of those who would like to be nominated and those who should be nominated. Will you help?

JUBILEE 2000

Please see insert this week and plan to share your gifts and ideas with the committee. Remember ... you won't be around for the millennium 3000! Get involved when and how you can now!

Call Bert Bertolino (786-1449), Paul Briere (789-4551), Pat Drewniak (786-7270), Sr. Fran Gloster (786-8105), or Sr. Fran White (786-4499). It will not be the same without you.



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Our Daily
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READ:
Isaiah 9:1-7

His name will be
called Wonderful,
Counselor, Mighty
God, Everlasting
Father, Prince of
Peace. —Isaiah 9:6

When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, the crowds cried out, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" (Mt. 21:9). Later that same week, however, a mob called for His crucifixion (27:22). Few people recognized Him as the one Isaiah described as Wonderful (Isa. 9:6).

If there is anyone who deserves that name, it is Jesus. He is wonderful in His deity and in His selfless love that led Him from the shining glories of heaven into the darkness of this sin-cursed world. He is wonderful in His virgin birth, wonderful in His overcoming, sinless life of service, wonderful in His teachings, wonderful in His vicarious death, wonderful in His astounding resur-

rection, and wonderful in His ascended glory. Someone has observed, "In Christ we have a love that can never be fathomed, a life that can never die, a peace that can never be understood, a rest that can never be disturbed, a joy that can never be diminished, a hope that can never be disappointed, a glory that can never be clouded, a light that can never be darkened, and a spiritual resource that can never be exhausted."

Do you love the Wonderful One? If you do, your life here will be full of wonder, and the life hereafter, bliss! —HGB

Wonderful, wonderful, Jesus is to me;
Counselor, Prince of Peace, Mighty God is He;
Saving me, keeping me from all sin and shame,
Wonderful is my Redeemer, praise His name. —Lillenas

PONDER THE WONDER OF JESUS.

Church News - continued...**News From The Valley Comm. Church**

Spring is in the air, and nowhere is it more evident than on the hill of the Valley Community Church at 152 South Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. A drive up to visit will reward you with a panoramic view of the greening of the valley mountains and the blossoming of the hillside flowers.

This Sunday's message captures this season of rejuvenation. "New Life, New Growth, New Spirit" will be delivered by our First Deacon, Lyle Pearsons, who will be filling in for Interim Pastor Robert Loesch. Pastor Loesch will be attending the 200th anniversary of the United Church of Christ in Worcester, MA.

To enhance this Sunday's sermon, Deacon Lyle is asking all attendees to bring in a small flat of flowers. These flowers will decorate the altar during the 9:30 a.m. worship service.

Following the service, the congregation will transplant these flowers in the gardens surrounding the church. What a glorious fellowship this will be.

* * *

In keeping with the spirit of "New Life, New Growth, New Spirit," the members of Valley Community Church are excited about the arrival of their new full-time minister, Pastor Gene de Jongh, and his family from Illinois in June. To show support and love for them, we are holding several fundraising events which will pay their moving costs.

The first event is a PANCAKE BREAKFAST to be held on Saturday, April 24th, from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. The cost is \$4.50 for adults, and \$3.50 for children under 12. All proceeds will go towards the moving expenses.

The second event is a Dinner Theatre on Saturday, May 8th, at 5:00 p.m. This event includes a spaghetti supper and a performance of the musical comedy "ADAM & EVE." The cost of this event is \$12.50 per person, and \$7.50 per child under 12. It is an event sure to delight the entire family. All proceeds will go toward the moving expenses. For more information or reservations for the dinner theatre, call (413) 786-2445.

* * *

Applications are available for the FRANK DUNN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP and may be picked up at the Agawam High School Guidance Office or by calling the church at 786-2445. This scholarship is open to any high school senior who will be attending an accredited institution of higher learning in the fall of 1999.

* * *

The Valley Community Church office hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There is an answering machine on 24 hours per day.

Happenings At First Baptist Church

"Awesome Beginnings" will be the topic of Pastor Richard Barnes' message this Sunday morning at the 9:30 a.m. worship service. Acts 2:42-47 will serve as the scriptural text for the message.

The Least Coin Offering will be received following the service. All that is required is a penny and a prayer.

Following worship, a time of food and fellowship will be held in Davis Hall. Church school classes will be held until 11:45 a.m., and nursery care is always provided.

* * *

There will be a meeting of the Deacons at 7:00 p.m. in Lockhart Parlor.

* * *

Coming up on our calendar this week:

Tuesday, April 27th: 10:00 a.m., Searchlighters bible study group (home of Dorothy Smith); 7:00 p.m., Junior Youth Group meets.

Wednesday, April 28th: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open; 7:30 p.m., Church Committee meets in Lockhart Parlor.

Thursday, April 29th: 10:00 a.m., Bell Ringers Rehearsal; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

Saturday, May 1st: Youth Leader Training and Resource Day.

* * *

Coming up: Friday, May 7th, will be May Fellowship Day for the Church Women United of Greater Springfield. The meeting will take place at Wesley United Methodist Church, 741 State Street, Springfield.

For reservations, call 734-3233 or 785-5226. Please bring Church World Service Kits and Least Coin Collections to this meeting.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon...

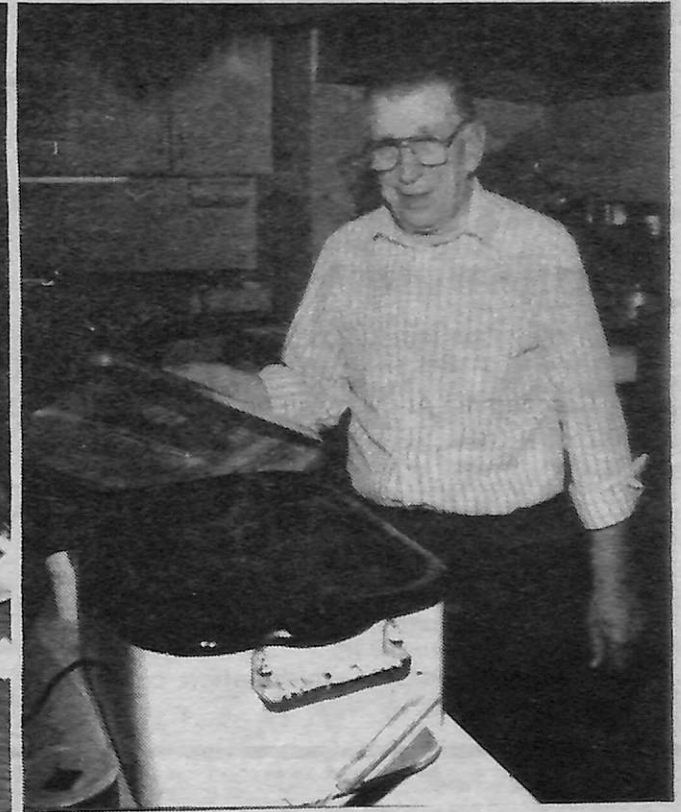
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Raising \$\$\$ For Thermal Imaging Unit...

THE MEN'S CLUB OF First Baptist Church recently sponsored a spaghetti and meatball dinner to raise money for the Agawam Fire Department's Thermal Imaging Unit. Pictured above are members of the Agawam Junior Women's Club who are helping to raise funds for this worthy cause (from left to right): Wendy Lieberman, Theresa Conklin, Wilma Gillan, and Betty Vershon. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



IN LEFT PHOTO: Enjoying their spaghetti and meatball dinners at First Baptist Church are Ernest J. Moccio and Helen A. Haskell. **IN RIGHT PHOTO:** Everett Hodge checks on the temperature of the spaghetti sauce and meatballs. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

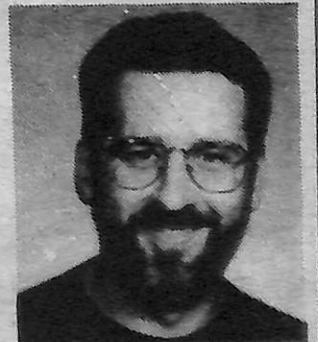
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Church News - continued...**Weekly Calendar From
Ag. Congregational**

The next New Member Class will be held on Saturday, April 24th, at 1:00 p.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

Anyone interested in joining the church is welcome to attend this class.

This Sunday, April 25th, is the Fourth Sunday of Easter.

This Sunday, former Deacon Steve Paul will be our Lay Speaker. Steve's Devotional will be "Jesus' Job Description," taken from Text: John 10:11-18. His Children's Message will be "Names."

Men's Prayer Time is held weekly on Tuesdays at 7:45 a.m. This half-hour includes a devotional reading, prayer, and a time of refreshments and fellowships.

All are welcome to this very special time. For more information, contact Rev. Fuller at 786-7111.

The Adult Bible Discussion Group will meet each first and third Wednesday of the month at 7:45 p.m., following the 7:00 p.m. Midweek Service. The next Discussion Group will meet on May 5th.

All are invited to attend this informal, non-threatening, fun group. For more information, please call the church office at 786-7111.

Mark your calendars today! A Baked Ham Dinner will be held on Saturday, May 1st, at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$7 for adults, and \$4 for children under 12.

Call the church office for reservations at 786-7111.

The Fifth Annual Cabaret will be held on Saturday, May 15th, from 6:00 to 9:30 p.m. A dinner will be served before the entertainment. Cost is \$12 for adults, and \$6 for children 10 and under. All proceeds will benefit the "Organ Restoration Fund."

Join us for a night of beautiful music and fellowship. Space is limited, so call early for your reservation.

Call the church office for more information or to reserve your tickets, 786-7111.

A Campership Auction will be held on Sunday, May 16th, following the Worship Service. Crafts, services, baked goods, and more will be auctioned off to the highest bidder.

Would you like to donate an item? Call the church office.

All money received will be put in the Campership Fund for children and adults to attend camps this summer.

**St. David's Episcopal
Church To Host
Roast Pork Dinner**

St. David's Episcopal Church will be hosting a Roast Pork Dinner on Monday, May 3rd, at 6:00 p.m. The dinner will be held at St. David's Church, 699 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills.

The menu will include: roast pork, mashed potatoes, vegetables, tossed salad, bread and butter, coffee, tea, and juice, and dessert.

Tickets are \$7 for adults, and \$3 for children under 12. These may be purchased in advance at St. David's or at the door.

Due to a sellout at the last two dinners, we will be unable to hold unpaid reservations past 6:30 p.m. without prior arrangements.

Proceeds from this dinner will go towards the debt reduction of the new church building.

For more information, please call (413) 786-6133.

**Baked Ham & Bean
Dinner Slated At
Ag. Congregational**

The Agawam Congregational Church will be holding a Baked Ham & Bean Dinner on Saturday, May 1st at 5:30 p.m.

The dinner includes baked ham with raisin sauce, baked beans, potato salad, and sherbet with fresh fruit dessert.

The cost is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children.

The dinner will be held at the church, located at 745 Main Street. Reservations are recommended, but a few walk-ins will be accepted.

Reservations can be made by calling Anne Hamel at 786-2908 before noon on Friday, April 30th.

**Events And Activities Announced
By Sacred Heart Church In F.H.****THANK YOU**

We recently had the privilege here at Sacred Heart parish to experience a thought-provoking and spiritually-renewing Lenten Parish Mission.

The success of this mission was gratifying to all who participated and was due in large measure to many of our parishioners who helped in varied ways. We would especially like to thank those who served in our publicity committee, the members of our newly-formed hospitality committee, and those who shared with us their personal encounters with God in their lives, the drivers who chauffeured Fr. Raphael on his visits to our homebound, and the choir members and organists who added so much to our morning and evening liturgies.

Last, but not least, we thank all who accepted our invitation to attend this Lenten Mission. Hopefully, we all benefited from this experience. **THANK YOU EVERYONE!! See you next year.**

LOAVES & FISHES - PANTRY WALK '99

The Loaves & Fishes Open Pantry serves lunch and supper seven days a week. Last year, they served over 70,000 meals to hungry, homeless,

and disadvantaged people.

Open Pantry Community Services, Inc. is holding a Pantry Walk '99 on May 2nd to raise the necessary funds to continue this work.

Members of the Sacred Heart Confirmation Class of 2000 and volunteer adult workers will represent Sacred Heart in this 10K walk, starting at Court Square in Springfield at 1:00 p.m.

Support for these walkers will come from donations accepted at the doors of the church after all Masses, May 1st and 2nd. Please contribute whatever you can to support their efforts and this worthwhile cause.

If you would like to take part in the Pantry Walk '99 or would like more information, please call Mary Zu'bi at 786-3110 or Kathy Rondinelli at 789-1326.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

An invitation! To all couples who have previously made a Marriage Encounter Weekend, a special second-timer's weekend will be held June 25th-27th. The registration deadline is April 30th.

For registration and information, call Bob & Marie Lussier at 783-0889.

**Agawam Catholic Women's Club
To Hold Tag And Rummage Sale**

There will be a capacity of 20 counters set up for the annual tag and rummage sale of the Agawam Catholic Women's Club to be held for the public from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., May 1st, at the parking lot of St. John the Evangelist Church, Main Street, Agawam.

The event has been divided into four sections: rummage sale, tag sale, bake sale, and snack bar. Snacks, lunch, and beverages will be available. In the event of rain, the event will be held in the Social Center of St. John's Church.

There will also be door prizes and raffles for this main fundraising event for the club itself. Chairperson is Betsy Ciempa; co-chairperson, Carol Pignatare; snack bar, Terry Longo and Martha Jerry; rummage sale, Alice Buell and Barbara Pfau; bake sale, Penny DeForge and Gloria Colby; and tag sale, Jane Malenowski and Jane Schmidt.

Persons wishing to donate items for the sale are asked to bring them on Friday, April 30th or Saturday, May 1st.

*Please be sure to patronize your local
businesses ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!*

* * * * *

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*The Annual Percentage Yield (APY) stated is effective as of the date of this publication and is subject to change without notice. The minimum balance to open an account and obtain the APY is \$1,000. A penalty will be imposed for early withdrawals. Checking account relationship required.

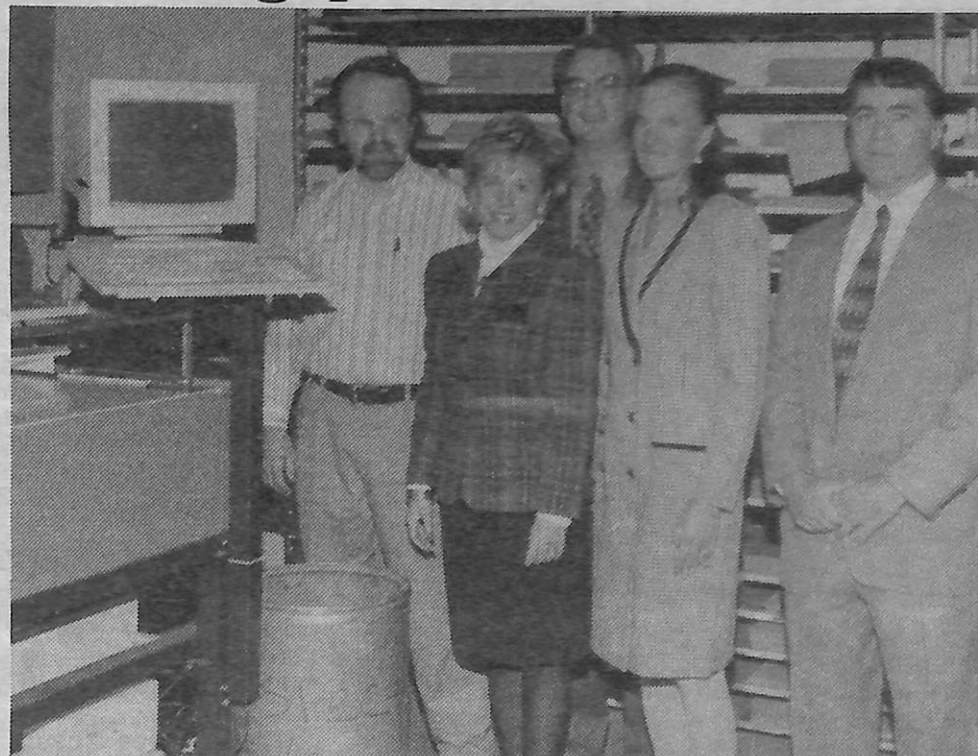
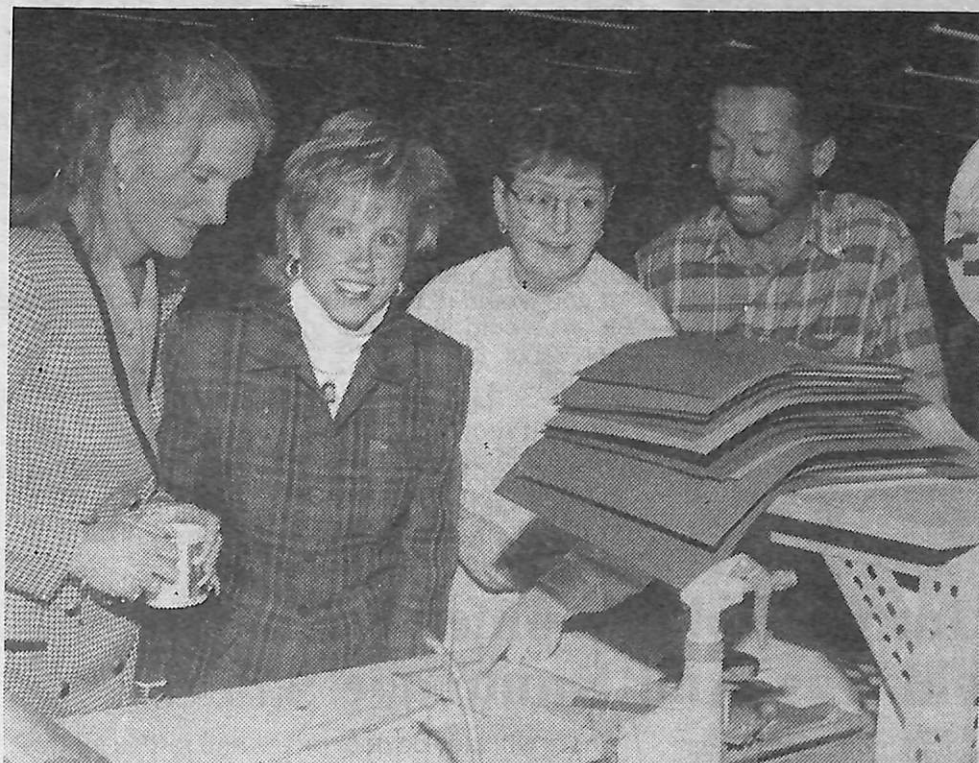
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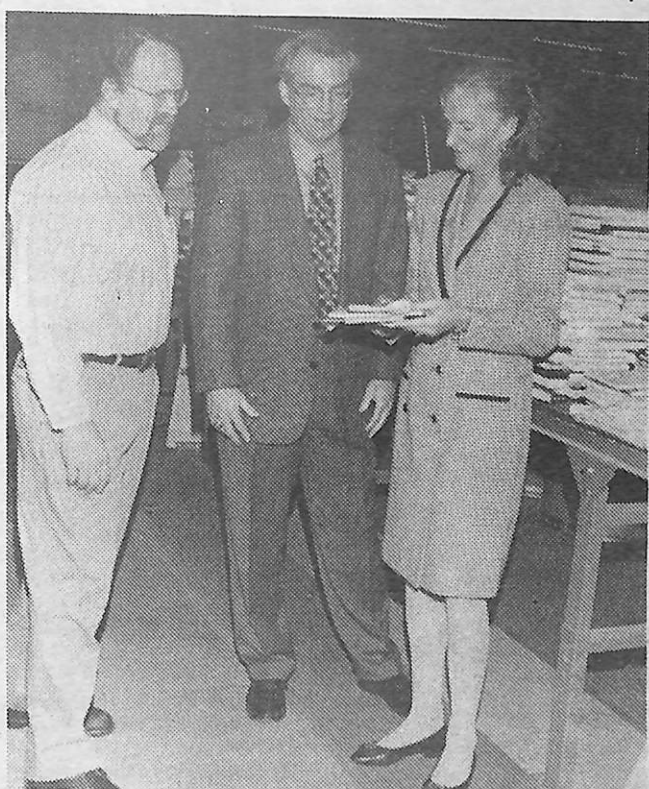


Spotlight On Business

Agawam Chamber Visits Bridgeport National...



THE AGAWAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE has initiated an "Agawam Town Business Relation Tour," whereby Chamber members visit different Agawam businesses on a monthly basis. Last month, the Chamber toured Bridgeport National Bindery, Inc., on Silver Street. IN LEFT PHOTO: Chamber Board Member Joann McGeoghan and Chamber President Linda Northup Vitro watch binding technicians Rita Nicholls and Ray Brunson at work. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Bridgeport Vice President Bruce F. Jacobsen (far left) with Linda Northup Vitro, Mayor Christopher Johnson, Joann McGeoghan, and Mike Fiorini. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



BRUCE F. JACOBSEN (left), Bridgeport Vice President, with Mayor Christopher Johnson and Chamber Board Member Joann McGeoghan. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Debra Taylor Now On East Longmeadow Chamber Board

Robert P. Molta, President of Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates, is proud to announce that Debra Taylor of our Longmeadow office has been chosen to serve as a member of the East Longmeadow Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

Debra is a Coldwell Banker Certified Previews Specialist and Diamond Society member, has earned her REBAC designation, and is licensed in both Connecticut and Massachusetts.

In addition, she has over 20 years of real estate experience specializing in land development and new home construction in the greater Springfield and northern Connecticut areas.

Debra is a 25-year resident of East Longmeadow and a member of Elmcrest Country Club.

Debra can be reached at 525-7570 or 748-8946.

Ferdi Williams Joins Keenan & Molta Associates' West Springfield Office

Robert P. Molta, President of Coldwell Banker Keenan & Molta Associates, is proud to announce that Ferdi Williams has joined our West Springfield office.

Ferdi is a graduate of the University of West Indies Department of Extramural Studies with a degree in Real Estate Marketing & Sales and was a real estate and insurance salesperson in the West Indies. Also, Ferdi was a police officer in Jamaica and a faculty member of the Jamaican Police Academy.

Locally, Ferdi earned his CBR and REI designations and completed "New Homes" sales training. Also, he has earned the "Top Producer" and

"Consistent & Above Production" award from Floyd Wickman and the "Distinguished Achievement" award from Palmer Goodell Insurance & American Home Shield.

For the past two years, Ferdi has served as a member of the Greater Springfield Association of Realtors community service committee and equal opportunity committee. In addition, he is the pioneer of the Talking House Program in the greater Springfield area.

Ferdi resides in Springfield with his wife, Clair, and their two children, Andre and Favel. He can be reached at 413-543-0265 or 413-748-7567.

SHRINE CIRCUS

April 29th - May 2nd

Eastern States Coliseum

West Springfield, MA

Free Parking

"FAMILY FUN TODAY AT YESTERDAY'S PRICES"

Ticket Prices:

Box Seats \$12 Reserved Seats \$10

Children 4-12 \$2 off \$10 Seats Fri-Sun

NEWS 40 & MANNY'S Opening Night Special*

Purchase one \$10 Seat and get a Second \$10 Seat FREE

Thurs. April 29th 7PM Show

LEGO & TEDDY BEAR POOLS

"Family Performance"

Saturday May 1st - 10AM Show

ALL RESERVED SEATS \$5*

OTHER GREAT SHOW TIMES:

Friday, April 30th 7:30PM

Saturday, May 1st 2:30 & 7:30PM

Sunday, May 2nd 1PM & 6PM

Coliseum Box Office Open Daily 10AM-6PM Open to 9PM Performance Nights

Box Office Phone: 413.787.0198

Discount Vouchers Available at Big Y, Serv-U Stores, Goodwill at "X", United CO-OP Banks and Eastfield Mall

Proceeds are for the benefit of Melha Shriners and are not deductible as charitable contributions

(no other discounts apply*)

Spotlight On Business - continued...

**Timely Tips On
How To Manage
Your Finances**

by Sue N. Alvanos
Personal Financial Advisor
American Express
534-3883.

The History Of Women & Wall Street

Almost since our country was formed, women have fought for the right to have the same opportunities as men in politics, education, and in the workforce. They have encountered similar struggles to find a place in the financial world as well. The good news is that great strides have been made — here's a brief look at the evolution of women and money.

Women as investment objects. It's hard to believe but in the early days of our country, women were considered property — the course of their lives often determined by husbands, fathers, or brothers. It wasn't until the mid-1800's that women could own property, separately from their spouse. Even then, if they divorced, their husbands retained control of all property — as well as the children. It was rare for women in the late 19th century to be financially independent, but it was about that time when women made their first mark on Wall Street.

The entry to Wall Street. Victoria Woodhull, a pioneer for women's financial independence, was born into a family of 10. Married at 15 and divorced some time later, she and her sister were traveling the country as spiritualists when they met Cornelius Vanderbilt. Taken with the sisters' unique personalities and outspokenness, Vanderbilt helped them open Woodhull, Claflin & Company in 1870 — the first women-run brokerage firm on Wall Street.

The evolution of financial independence. After winning the right to vote in 1920, many women began to take charge of their own finances. As newspapers and radio made the stock tables easier for everyone to understand, many women recognized that investing required many of the same skills they were using to manage household budgets. By the time the market crashed in the fall of 1929, many women across the country had dabbled in the market.

The move to modern Wall Street. It wasn't until the late 1950's that women began to break the gender barrier in the traditional male-run brokerage houses of modern-day Wall Street. During that period, the first woman purchased a seat on the New York Stock exchange, while another woman served as commissioner of the Securities and Exchange Commission. At the same time, many of these women dealt with the assumptions that having children was out of the question if they had a career and the responsibilities of maintaining a home were a woman's realm.

The role of investment clubs. As some women worked to make a place and a name for themselves on Wall Street, other women were determined to become savvy investors. In the 1980's, many women across the country believed they had the skill and the intuition to invest in the market. They just lacked the capital to get started. Building on a heritage of working together to solve problems, women began forming investment clubs.

Made famous by a group of women from Beardstown, Illinois, investment clubs give investors the opportunity to pool small amounts — \$25 to \$50 a month from each member — raising enough capital for their securities purchases. These clubs have given hundreds of women the opportunity to study the world of finance and increase their investment knowledge, often while tucking away substantial earnings.

The future looks bright for women in the financial world as more and more women are taking charge of family finances and investment decisions. To help them negotiate the ups and downs of the current market, many choose to work with a financial advisor. If you've been thinking about your own financial strategy, a trusted professional can help you achieve financial goals women used to believe were impossible.

Sue Alvanos'
"Timely Tips"
is a regular
feature of The
Agawam Advertiser.

* * *

Marci Longobardi Joins Feeding Hills Office Of Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall/BHG

Charles E. Reiter, President of Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall/Better Homes and Gardens®, is pleased to announce that Marci Longobardi has joined the firm's Feeding Hills office as a sales agent.

Ms. Longobardi began her real estate career in 1978 and in that time has obtained the designation of Certified Buyer Representative (CBR). A long-time resident of Western Massachusetts, Ms. Longobardi currently resides in Agawam.

"We are pleased that Ms. Longobardi has selected Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall to continue her career in real estate," stated Reiter.

Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall/Better Homes and Gardens®, a GMAC Home Services company, is the largest real estate firm in Western Massachusetts with over 240 sales agents and 14 regional offices servicing Chicopee, Agawam/Feeding Hills, East Longmeadow, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Palmer, Sixteen Acres, Springfield, West Springfield, Westfield, and Wilbraham.

Landry, Lyons, Stearns & Yerrall is a division of Carlson Real Estate/Better Homes and Gardens®.

For further information, please contact Charles E. Reiter at (413) 782-6000.

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MEMBER FD.I.C.



Spotlight On Business - continued...


COMMON SENSE
with
Raymond Rose
THE PIONEER GROUP

How To Help Children Cope With Moving To A New Home

Here's a few ideas on how to help your children adjust after moving into a new home...

* Always talk positively about the move. Emphasize the many things he/she will have to look forward to.

* Shop for something special - a bedspread, wall hanging, stuffed animal - to put in his/her new room.

* Give him/her an address book so he can keep in touch with the friends he/she will leave behind.

* Borrow a yearbook from an older child's new school so he can check out the clubs, teams, new classmates, and teachers.

* Get books, videos, maps, etc. so your child can learn as much as possible about where you'll be moving.

Raymond Rose is the Principal of THE PIONEER GROUP, a professional real estate firm that represents home buyers only. Comments/questions can be directed to his office (731-6800) or his e-mail (RayRose111@aol.com). Also, contact him via e-mail to receive his FREE online newsletter, "THE PIONEER REPORT - Online."

Westfield Mutual Holding Company's 1st Quarter Results

Westfield Bank President Donald A. Williams has announced the first quarter results for the Westfield Mutual Holding Company. The total deposits for the company increased by \$1,548,863, ending the quarter at \$509,861,763.

During the same time period, total assets rose \$4,205,967. The total assets at quarter end were \$586,756,208.

The loan areas continued to experience strong market demand. This was especially evident with the commercial and industrial loans increasing \$2,908,257 or 4.78 percent. Total commercial loans at quarter end were \$63,704,161.

Consumer loans increased 20.30 percent or \$9,608,073, with an ending balance of \$56,930,687. Real estate loans also grew by \$2,699,759, with a total of \$312,112,532.

Net income for the first quarter was \$1,337,413 — a 7.15 percent increase over the \$1,248,144 earned during the same period in 1998.

Mr. Williams notes, "Westfield Bank has experienced this growth by providing quality banking services to the local communities. As one of the largest banks in Hampden County, Westfield Bank continues to chart its growth as a local independent bank."

Westfield Bank, headquartered in Westfield since 1853, has branch locations in West Springfield, Agawam, Southwick, and East Longmeadow. A new office on Main Street in downtown Springfield is scheduled to open soon.

Pam Savioli
Landry, Lyons & Stearns
Better Homes & Yerrall
(413) 748-7565


What Is Your House Worth?

When a Realtor works with a seller to establish the selling price of a house, a competitive market analysis is written. On the one hand, there is the desire of the seller to get top dollar. On the other hand, it is imperative that the price be competitive, or the property will not sell.

The following are considerations in setting the asking price:

• Condition and appearance of the house (including interior, exterior, and landscaping).

• Local market conditions, including demand, current mortgage interest rates, average number of days homes are staying on the market, and long-term market trends.

• Financial history of the house, including most recent purchase price, assessed value.

• Needs of the seller, including how quickly the house must sell. Is a sale needed to finance the purchase of another home? Can the seller afford to wait for the asking price?

Other factors may include location, access to shopping, schools, churches and recreational facilities, and the selling prices of homes nearby and in similar neighborhoods.

If you, a relative, or a friend are planning to sell a house, please call me and we can determine the value of the property.

Let me help you! Call Pam Savioli at (413) 748-7565 for a free consultation.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you...

* * * * *

Our "Spotlight On Business" is just one more reason why you turn our pages every week...

* * *



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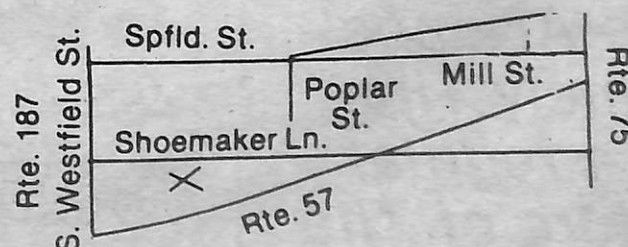
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- Bushes
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Spotlight On Business - continued...

Legal Memo

by
Alan L. Ferrigno, Esq.
 546 Springfield St., F.H.
 (413) 786-9454



REAL ESTATE

Watch That Offer To Purchase

An offer-to-purchase form signed by a buyer and seller of real estate created a binding contract even though it referenced a subsequent purchase-and-sale agreement, the Supreme Court has ruled.

The seller, seeking to repudiate the contract and sell the property to a third party, argued that the inclusion of language contemplating the execution of a final written agreement infers that the parties did not intend to be bound by the offer form.

The Supreme Judicial Court disagreed, vacating a Superior Court judgment in favor of the seller.

"[I]f the parties have agreed upon all material terms, it may be inferred that the purpose of a final document which the parties agree to execute is to serve as a polished memorandum of an already binding contract," the Court concluded.

Thus, if you don't include "safe harbor language" in an offer form indicating that it is not a contract, it will likely be deemed binding and parties will have an obligation to act in good faith to negotiate a purchase-and-sale agreement.

To avoid this issue entirely, one should try to fine-tune the offer form to specifically provide that this is not an enforceable agreement unless and until a mutually satisfactory agreement is signed by both parties.

The defendant argued that the OTP's provision regarding the execution of a purchase-and-sale agreement reflected the parties' intentions not to be bound. However, the judge held that when all of the material terms are agreed on, the court can infer that a final document which the parties agreed to execute is merely a "polished memorandum" of an already binding contract.

Consequently, one should contact an attorney before signing any documents when purchasing real estate.

Strategy Seminar On
 'Wealth Preservation'
 Slated For May 2nd

Do you have a plan for protecting your assets? You are cordially invited to attend a seminar on "Strategic Planning for Wealth Preservation."

In conjunction with Goldman Sachs Asset Management, the Saint George Cathedral Endowment Trust is pleased to co-host this unique seminar on Sunday, May 2nd, at 1:00 p.m. immediately following the Divine Liturgy at the Greek Cultural Center.

Co-host Charlie Alvanos of Feeding Hills, CFP, Senior Financial Advisor, American Express Financial Advisors, Inc. and husband of Susan Alvanos, who writes a weekly column for *The AAN*, will be presenting two speakers:

Beginning at 1:00 p.m., we will present keynote speaker Scott Snyder, vice president, Goldman Sachs Asset Management, followed by guest speaker Attorney Hyman Darling from the law firm of Bacon & Wilson, who will speak about the basics of Estate Planning and preserving your assets in the event of a nursing home stay.

Space is limited to 125. The cost of the luncheon is only \$5. The seminar and materials, however, are free. To reserve your place, call Pat Mee at the Center, 737-1496 or Charlie Alvanos at 534-3883, ext. 219, or see Peter Pappas, chairman of the Endowment Trust.

Don't miss this important and timely educational program!

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Keenan And Molta Associates Announces
 Record-Breaking Sales Of Previews Properties

Robert P. Molta, President of COLDWELL BANKER KEENAN & MOLTA ASSOCIATES is proud to announce record-breaking sales of Previews Properties.

In 1998, COLDWELL BANKER KEENAN & MOLTA ASSOCIATES experienced an unprecedented 42 percent increase in the sales of our more exclusive properties. "We have professional agents who are educated and designated by Coldwell Banker Corporation as experts in the marketing of Previews Properties. That is directly reflected in the numbers," said Robert P. Molta, President.

The Previews Properties Program is specifically designed for finer homes; homes that rank among the top 10 percent within their local market. This program is the preeminent system for the marketing of luxury properties worldwide.

For over six decades, the Previews name has stood for innovation and dedication to quality. The Previews Program has a valued heritage that began in 1933, and over the years, some of the most notable personalities on the world scene, including American presidents, members of European royalty, leaders of Fortune 500 companies, and many international celebrities, have selected Previews to market their exceptional properties.

Homes that are accepted into the Previews Division enjoy certain benefits. Some of those benefits include: inclusion in the Coldwell Banker International Registry of Fine Homes and Estates, global access to over 71,000 qualified luxury home buyers, special representation by Previews Specialists trained in luxury home sales, upper tier marketing tools, signage, and much more.

AGAWAM PUBLIC MARKET

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Boneless Bottom Round Roast	\$1.79 Lb.
Boneless Back Rump Roast	\$1.99 Lb.
Beef Round Cubed Steak	\$2.69 Lb.
Beef Round Stew Beef	\$2.49 Lb.
Fresh Ground Round	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$2.49 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.99 Lb.
Fresh Ground Beef	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.69 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.39 Lb.
Boneless Eye Round Roast	\$2.49 Lb.
Boneless New York Strip Steaks	\$5.99 Lb.
Grade "A" Skinless & Boneless Chicken Breast	\$2.69 Lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Roast	\$2.69 Lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Cutlets	\$2.99 Lb.
Country Style Ribs	\$1.69 Lb.
Whole Butt Tenderloins	\$5.69 Lb.

Grade "A" Jumbo Eggs (Doz.)	99¢
Hood 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$2.09
Hood Half & Half Cream (Quart)	\$1.69

SEAFOOD

Scrod Fillet	\$4.39 Lb.
--------------	------------

DELI

Land O' Lakes American Cheese (White Or Yellow)	\$2.99 Lb.
Cooper Sharp Cheese	\$3.49 Lb.
Russer German Bologna	\$1.39 Lb.
Thumann's Gourmet Turkey Breast	\$4.99 Lb.
Krakus Imported Ham	\$3.99 Lb.
Hormel Genoa Salami	\$2.99 Lb.
Citterio Mortadella (With Pistachio)	\$2.69 Lb.
Fresh Store Made White Meat Chicken Salad	\$4.89 Lb.

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Bananas	49¢ Lb.
Anjou Pears	3 For \$1.00
Granny Smith Apples	69¢ Lb.
New Crop Texas Spanish Onions	39¢ Lb.
Celery Hearts (Bunch)	99¢
Fancy Hot House Tomatoes	\$1.39 Lb.

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 Hamburg Patties
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\$6.99

Discover a place that your *whole* family can enjoy!



Imagine a place where you and your family can have fun together and enjoy healthy exercise at the same time - discover Fitness First.

~~~~~

**Start by coming in for  
National Fitness Month  
&  
Workout for Easter Seals on  
Family Fitness Day!**  
*(co-sponsored by E.B.'s Restaurants)*

**Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>  
8am - 5pm**

**Only \$5 guest fee per person** *(to be donated to Easter Seals)*

**Special Family Fitness Day Activities:**

|         |                                                                                    |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9:30am  | Witness "Johnny G" Master Spinner, Garen Stoehr!*                                  |
| 10:30am | Try the popular Beginner Spinning Class <i>(taught by E.B.'s own EB, himself!)</i> |
| 11:30am | Get every muscle moving to BodyPUMP! <i>(weight training class)*</i>               |
| 12-5pm  | Family Swim in the beautiful Indoor Swimming Pool!                                 |
| 1:00pm  | Sample E.B.'s food at a FREE light snack buffet                                    |
| 8am-5pm | Family Portraits taken by Lynovations Photography* <i>(\$30 fee includes 8x10)</i> |
| all day | Raffle Prizes!                                                                     |

\*Participation in this class requires a minimum \$25 pledge to Easter Seals & pre-registration at the club. You do not need to be a Fitness First member. Pledge packages to be given to participants which include Fitness First T-shirt and gift certificate to E.B.'s Restaurants!

~~~~~

Only \$49 Enrollment

(tax deductible: to be donated to Easter Seals)

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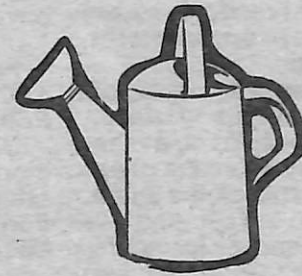
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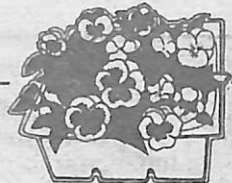
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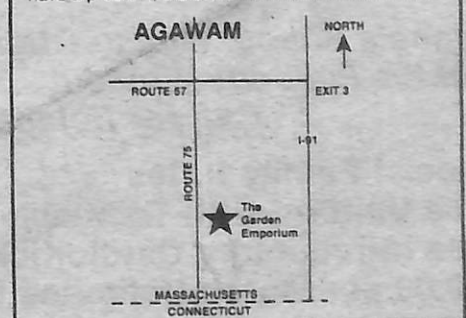
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Directions To The Garden Emporium

In Massachusetts, take I-91 south. From Connecticut, take I-91 north. Go over the Mass. border to Exit 3 (Route 5). Stay on Route 57 West (it will say Agawam). Continue until the Route 75 Exit (Suffield Street). At the end of the ramp make a left and continue past two traffic lights. After the second light the store will be one mile on the left hand side. If you have a problem, the store number is 413-789-0122.



For Your Health



Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph
S. Schlaffer
Schlaffer
Chiropractic Offices
192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

Gardening And Back Pain

Question: Rototilling my garden recently has resulted in nagging low back ache with pain going down the back of my leg. What do you recommend?

Answer: Gardening and landscaping are great, if you recognize that they are activities that produce certain body stresses; if you recognize your own physical limitations; and if you do them with good sense as well as enthusiasm.

Most people fail to maintain the level of physical conditioning required to perform strenuous tasks around their homes. Then, as the warmer weather begins, they try to make their lawns or gardens the most attractive on the block - all in one day.

They dig, lift, bend, rake, and shovel for hours on end. The result is often similar to what you are now describing. Their backs hurt, their muscles ache, and they wonder why.

Doctors of Chiropractic, whose health-care services emphasize the structural integrity of the body, offer the following "golden rules" of gardening:

1. Warm-up your muscles to the task you're about to start.
2. Don't bend over for long periods of time without taking standing breaks.
3. Don't lift more than you can handle.
4. Wear clothing that does not restrict or confine your movements.
5. Wear flat, comfortable shoes that offer firm support.
6. Use the proper tool for each job.
7. Avoid becoming overheated or chilled.
8. Avoid iced drinks when overheated.
9. Avoid doing your work in an awkward position.

As far as your immediate problem, if your aches and pains don't subside in a few days, a chiropractic spinal examination is advised. You'll find a unique approach to low back and related leg pain without medication. Continuing pain in any part of the back, neck, arms, and legs indicates more than muscular problems.

The Schlaffer Chiropractic Office, 192 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam, is happy to provide this information as a community health service.

For photo coverage in The AAN, please contact photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053. Thank you...

* * *

Support Groups, Courses, & Programs At Noble Hospital

SUPPORT GROUPS

Alcoholics Anonymous: Sunday evenings, 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital, 115 West Silver Street, Westfield. Free of charge. All are welcome.

Stroke Support Group: Wednesday, April 28th, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. In the Bronson Rehabilitation Center Dining Room at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to individuals recovering from a stroke, spouses, caregivers, and other interested persons.

Diabetes: Tuesday, April 27th, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. In Conference Room A at Noble Hospital.

Free of charge and open to individuals who have diabetes and their support persons.

COURSES/PROGRAMS/CLINICS

Free Athletic Injury Clinic: Thursday, April 29th, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. At Noble Hospital's Sports and Rehabilitation Center, 76 Main Street, Westfield.

On the first, third, and fifth Thursdays of every month, a certified athletic trainer will evaluate athletic injuries. Then, based upon the evaluation, remedial exercises or physician referral may be recommended.

For an appointment, call 562-3522.

15th Annual Run For A Noble Cause: 5-K Road Race and Kids' Race. Saturday, April 24th. Registration at 8:30 a.m. 5-K Race at 10:00 a.m.; Kids' Race at 10:45 a.m. Sponsored by Noble Hospital.

Registration is limited to 350. The registration fee is \$8 in advance or \$10 on the day of the race. The Kids' Race is free. Awards will be given for all divisions.

Call Noble Hospital's HEALTHBEAT, (413) 568-2328, for a registration form or for more information.

Preventative Breast And Cervical Cancer Initiative Underway

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan encourages all women to take advantage of the Breast and Cervical Cancer Initiative (BCCI) currently underway throughout Western Massachusetts.

The BCCI provides annual mammograms, PAP tests, clinical breast exams, and breast and cervical cancer education at no cost to women who are uninsured, under insured, or have a personal or primary history of breast cancer.

Also available are screenings for women over 50 for hypertension, cholesterol, osteoporosis, diabetes, and colorectal cancer.

For a list of scheduled events, please contact Rep. Keenan's office at (413) 786-4545, or the BCCI regional toll-free number, 1-888-702-2224.

— ADVERTISER NEWS —



Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

Can An Anti-Obesity Hormone Be Prescribed?

You may have read this headline recently: "Obese Mice Given Leptin Lose Weight." Wouldn't the millions of people who struggle with excess weight be jubilant if there was such an easy solution to their struggles?

Leptin, a hormone, was discovered just a few years ago, and much is becoming known about its role in preventing obesity. An exciting aspect of leptin research is that it is found naturally in the body and reacts to stimuli, much like the hormone insulin. In fact, researchers are finding many similarities between insulin and leptin and hope to document links that will help uncover questions about diabetes.

Once discovered, scientists began to scrutinize leptin's actions. What is the best way to measure leptin? What biochemical steps does it influence, including its effect on appetite? If leptin is given like insulin, what are all of its effects on the body?

A study in *The New England Journal of Medicine* (February 1, 1996) reported that obese individuals secreted more leptin than normal weight individuals. After weight loss, leptin levels decreased. This is similar to insulin and diabetes. Obese individuals often produce greater amounts of insulin than normal weight individuals. Insulin levels, like leptin, decrease with weight loss.

The researchers conclude that leptin levels are linked with the percentage of body fat, suggesting that most obese persons are insensitive to the leptin their body makes. Again, this is similar to diabetes and insulin. Many people with diabetes produce high amounts of insulin, yet are not able to use it adequately.

A review of food intake regulation in *Science* (May 29, 1998) reported on leptin's effect on appetite. The authors describe how leptin acts on receptors in the brain to inhibit food intake, a major regulatory step in controlling caloric intake.

While this news is very exciting, the research is still relatively new and there are complex issues that need to be addressed prior to making leptin available as a prescription. What is known today may change down the road. However, our current findings give hope to those attempting to manage weight problems and/or diabetes.

(Next week - "Fiber Facts: Soluble Fiber & Heart Disease.")

Nancy Dell, MS, is a registered dietitian in private practice in Feeding Hills and the media representative for the Massachusetts Dietetic Association. She can be reached at 850 Springfield Street, Suite 4, Feeding Hills, MA 01030, (413) 786-2957.



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Cost: \$7.00 Per Adult; \$3.00 For Children 12 Years Or Under

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For Your Health - continued...



Chiropractic Care
by
Dr. Tami Nelson
Chiropractic
Physician
Hampden County
Chiropractic
850 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills
786-4820

The following information has come from the Foundation for Chiropractic Education and Research:

Several studies presented at a meeting of the American Association of Cancer Research suggest that vitamin supplements, though not preventing cancer, can make it less aggressive.

One study looked at 30 men, aged 60 to 80, who had prostate cancer and were waiting to have surgery. Fifteen of these men were given lycopene supplements (lycopene is the ingredient that makes tomatoes red); the remaining 15 received placebos. Following surgery, the tumors were examined and compared. Researchers found that the men who had taken lycopene supplements had lower prostate-specific antigens (PSAs are prostate cancer markers and predict the severity of the cancer) in their tumors and their tumors were smaller.

A second study, performed at the Georgetown University Medical Center, looked at 135 male patients who had developed head and neck cancer. "Those patients who had been regular users of vitamin supplements prior to the development of disease had a three-fold reduction in the mutation of p53," said Bruce Trock, one of the researchers.

Previous studies have shown that 60 percent of those with head and neck cancer "have mutations in a gene called p53, which is known to help control the mechanisms that lead to cancer." Patients who had taken antioxidant supplements had a four-fold decrease in p53 mutations. What is striking about this study, is that none of the men lived healthy lifestyles - they were smokers, drinkers, ate fatty foods and few vegetables, and didn't exercise. The only difference was the vitamin supplement consumption of some.

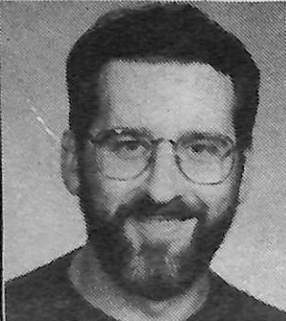
The study concluded "regular vitamin use prior to the development of disease may affect its aggression. The vitamins didn't prevent these people from getting disease, but they may have affected the biology of the tumor."

Three small studies on women suggest that soy products may protect against breast cancer. Lee-Jan Lu of the University of Texas Medical Branch, one of the researchers, said that women who drank soy milk had lower blood levels of estrogen and, in one study, lower levels of progesterone.

Estrogen is linked to breast cancer. Soy products are rich in isoflavones, which are known as phytoestrogens because of their similarity to estrogen. "Reducing estrogen reduces breast cell proliferation," Lu said. "This may help explain why soybean consumption seems to protect against breast cancer."

Added Lu, "The implication of our research results is that soya diets may be useful for preventing breast cancer. More studies will be needed to understand how much and how often one should consume soya foods."

Lifestyle changes, including dietary habits and vitamin supplementation, may make a significant difference in our quality of living - the time to make changes is now!



"Let's Talk About It"
by **Dan Pender**
Marriage & Family Therapist
P.O. Box 449
Agawam, MA 01001
(413) 789-4460

When Your Anxiety Spills Over...

Especially during periods of increased tension and anxiety, all of us experience blocks in our ability to remain or be open in our communication. One relationship dynamic I think important to identify is a process called **triangulation** or the **relationship triangle**. Once this process is named, individuals have a tool to help make relationship triangles be a positive process, avoiding the negative impact it often has in relationships.

Simply put, it is a relationship process whereby one or both parties are not able to manage well their presenting anxiety or tension just between themselves and/or on their own. One or both individuals need to move the focus off themselves by putting their anxiety onto another party.

This process may be done knowingly and directly, but is more commonly done unknowingly. Often, it only becomes concrete after the fact. It is not unusual to hear stated, "I can't believe I put or was put in the middle like that!" It is usually after this awareness that one acknowledges how their behavior played a role in attempting to provide some relief.

This third party could be another adult or child or even an object, such as money. The goal of triangulation, however played out, is the same: to help shift the focus. Almost anything or any person will serve to defuse the anxiety by, in effect, "spreading it around."

Generally, this "spreading around" works well in most circumstances. But when this process gets out of balance, it can become very problematic. What is important to understand about how triangles primarily work is that the third party functions to relieve tension; whether bringing in someone else or being the one brought into a twosome.

We've all experienced being on both sides of

this process and feeling how conflict can be relieved between a twosome. Just think about an example in your own life. Whether it is a situation in the workplace, school, while with children, or in your growing up family. A common denominator in most all joining in is that it helps the twosome defuse their tension. But what about the third party?

The third party, typically absorbs a degree, sometimes a high degree, of the twosome's tension. It then often contributes to added stress in the life of the third party. Yet, at other times, the simple addition of a third party can provide enough relief or distraction. While at other times, even a threesome still requires additional members to defuse the tension, thus forming **interlocking triangles** (more on this concept in a future column).

While some eventual relief may be experienced, typically, the original twosome and the "new others" are no better equipped to change their communication style than they were before the escalation of tension. All parties could benefit from creatively learning healthier ways of dealing with their tension and anxiety.

Just "spreading it around" onto third-party individuals can be costly, especially to the single largest and most vulnerable population, innocent children. Indiscriminate "spreading around" onto these and others like them occurs all too frequently. Greater consideration and serious care for the most vulnerable is needed to avoid the deep pain that is often attached to *serious absorbing of another's anxiety*, especially if it is a steady lifelong dose.

Those of you who have experienced this type of lasting intensity know what I'm talking about. For those fortunate enough not to know this type of intensity, I will speak next time, through examples, about the many ways triangles surface in regular everyday situations. How one manages "self" in these situations can make a significant difference in the quality of both your life and the life of those you are in relationship with, be they stranger, friend, lover, and/or family.

In the meantime, please e-mail or write me with your feedback, relationship questions, and topics and "Let's Talk About It."

Dan Pender, MA, MFT, is a Marriage & Family Therapist with a private practice in Agawam, MA. He is a Clinical member of the American Association of Marriage & Family Therapy and can be reached by "e-mail" (look for address in his advertisement) or "P.O. Box 449," Agawam, MA 01001, (413) 789-4460.

"For Your Health" is a weekly feature of The Agawam Advertiser News and is just one more reason why you turn our pages each and every week...

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For Your Health - continued...

“Workout For Easter Seals!” Slated For Saturday, May 1st

Fitness First and E.B.'s Restaurants are joining forces to benefit Easter Seals. On Saturday, May 1st, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., a “Workout for Easter Seals!” will take place at Fitness First Health & Fitness Center.

For a \$5 per person donation to Easter Seals, you can work out all day at Fitness First, 60 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills. What's more, the following activities will be taking place on May 1st at Fitness First:

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.: Have your family portrait photographed for only \$30 (includes an 8x10 - all proceeds go to Easter Seals).

9:30 a.m.: Spin with Master (Johnny G) Spinner, Garen Stoeher (\$25 pledge and pre-registration required).

10:30 a.m.: Try a Beginner Spinning Class - taught by E.B. himself (pre-registration required).

11:30 a.m.: Get every muscle in your body moving to BodyPUMP - weight training class (\$25 pledge required).

12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m.: Enjoy “Family Swim” in the indoor pool with your kids.

1:00 p.m.: Eat lunch on E.B. with samples of food from the restaurant.

In addition, there will be raffle prizes drawn on the hour; tickets are \$1 for one, or \$5 for six tickets. Raffle tickets are available at Fitness First or E.B.'s.

The raffle prizes are as follows:

Green fees and tee times for two (a \$170 value) at the Cranwell Resort in Lenox; dinner for two (a \$100 value) at the Omni Parker House in Boston; a birthday party (\$100 value) at Games & Lanes; a \$35 gift certificate to Outback Steakhouse; a \$30 gift certificate to Graziano Gardens; a \$25 gift certificate to The Student Prince; a \$20 gift certificate to any of E.B.'s Restaurants; and four half-gallons of ice cream from Friendly's Restaurants.

To pre-register for the aforementioned activities and/or to receive further information, call Fitness First at 786-1460.

Check our classified ads!!!



THESE CERTIFIED “SPINNING” INSTRUCTORS are “gearing” up for the “Workout for Easter Seals!” on Saturday, May 1st, at Fitness First (from left to right): Carmela Kirk, R.N., Fitness First's Fitness Director; Ed Borgatti, Jr. of the Massachusetts Easter Seals Board of Directors and chairman of the May 1st event; and Dina Lancour. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

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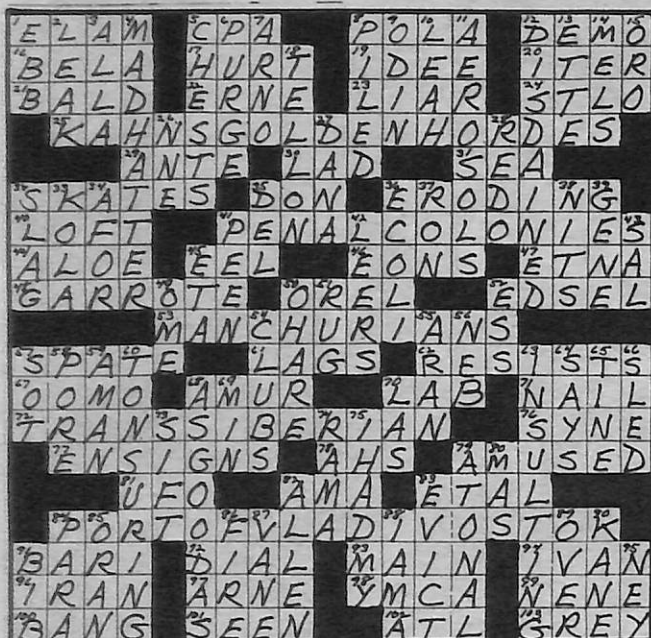
**Also, Come In And Check
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Arts

Last Week's Solution...



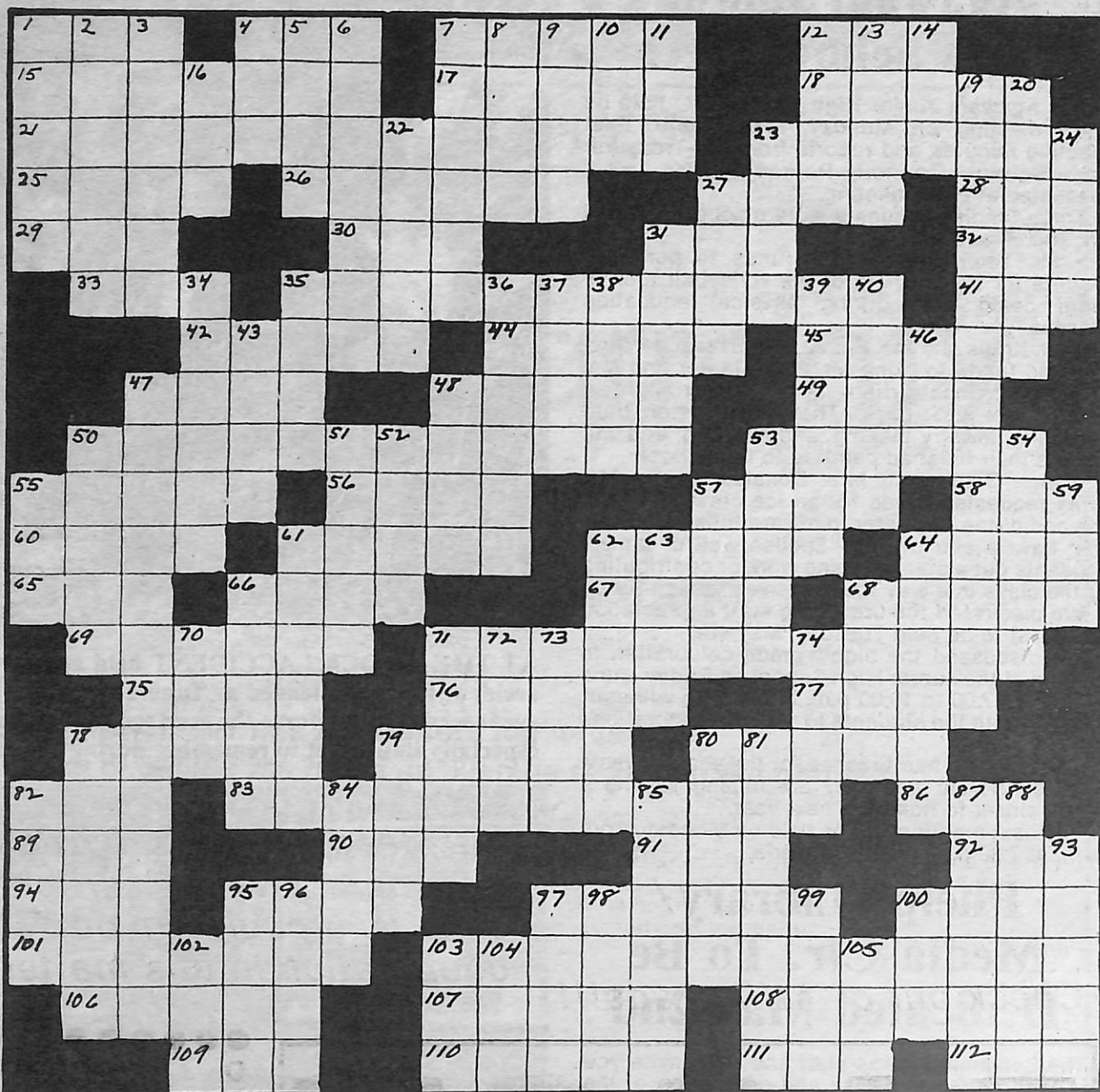
ACROSS

- 1 "—mo"
- 4 Guido's high note
- 7 Race with a baton
- 12 Type of wrench
- 15 Can with a charge
- 17 Put on cloud nine
- 18 "... partridge in — tree"
- 21 One-armed bandits' locale
- 23 Emulated Dobbin
- 25 Celebes' oxen
- 26 Lauder and name-sakes
- 27 Meat preference
- 28 Singer Peggy
- 29 Lair
- 30 Bengal people
- 31 Old salt
- 32 Actress Gardner
- 33 Award for valor
- 35 Texas wrangler?
- 41 Buntline
- 42 French river
- 44 Put on display
- 45 Name for a cat
- 47 Like some juices
- 48 Upright stone slab
- 49 Moth
- 50 Southwest thoroughfare?
- 53 West Indies tribe
- 55 Abates
- 56 Buck follower
- 57 Sandwich favorites
- 58 Lowe or Reiner
- 60 No ifs, —, or buts
- 61 Feeds the swine
- 62 A.E.F.'s favorite leave spot
- 64 Trooper prefix
- 65 Letter run
- 66 Army meal
- 67 Teen or golden extender
- 68 Actrees June
- 69 Siblings' dispute
- 71 Highly respected eastern paper
- 75 German philosopher
- 76 African antelope
- 77 Nights' before
- 78 H. Melville title
- 79 Prostrate
- 80 Gary product
- 82 Dance step
- 83 Lions or Tigers
- 86 Lifting tune
- 89 Building extension
- 90 Dawn goddess
- 91 Fitting
- 92 "— de plume"
- 94 "— carte"
- 95 Gush
- 97 Scold
- 100 Greek portico
- 101 Compared
- 103 Puget
- 106 Leeward island
- 107 Extremist
- 108 More like April
- 109 G.I. mailing address
- 110 German industrial city
- 111 Sol
- 112 Nautical chain

DOWN

- 1 Dieter's course
- 2 Tilted
- 3 Bean and Welles
- 4 Compass heading
- 5 Opera setting
- 6 Man from Nome
- 7 Move the goods
- 8 French fashion publication
- 9 Asian country
- 10 Lawyer (abbr.)
- 11 Affirmative
- 12 Turner of Hollywood
- 13 Second word of a fairy tale
- 14 Essen's country
- 16 Eggs
- 19 Peach state tribe?
- 20 Superman portrayer on T.V.
- 22 Robbed
- 23 Yugoslavian
- 24 "— to the world"
- 27 Suburbanites' pride
- 31 Beach carry on
- 34 Hags
- 35 "Dumb —"
- 36 Houston team
- 37 Mets' home
- 38 "E—" (bacterium)
- 39 Flattened at the poles
- 40 "— truly"
- 43 Hovels
- 46 Naval intelligence group
- 47 Erie
- 48 Cease
- 50 "A votre —"
- 51 Oral test response
- 52 God of love
- 53 Mercantile worker
- 54 Achy spots
- 55 "The Lady — a Tramp"
- 57 "— Rabbit"
- 59 What "Cheers" was
- 61 Sofa
- 62 Stewart and Freda
- 63 "There must be —"
- 64 Dawber formally
- 66 Like Leo the lion
- 68 Busy place
- 70 Faucet
- 71 Roman emperor et al
- 72 "The Time Machine" people
- 73 Desire
- 74 Run rampant
- 78 "— the Saddle"
- 79 Front of a ship
- 80 Flower part
- 81 Shreds
- 82 Ring out
- 84 "— off" (golfed)
- 85 Clan's cloth
- 87 Learn by intuition
- 88 He played "Andy Hardy"
- 93 Mother in Madrid
- 95 Cut off
- 96 Mexican dough
- 97 Cudgels
- 98 To be (Fr.)
- 99 Son of Isaac
- 100 Papa's joy

Meet The Master - by Dick Mastroianni...



Japanese Folk Tale To Be Presented This Weekend At The Red Door Theatre

STAGE Children's Theatre will present "URASHIMA TARO," adapted for the stage by Lyle Pearsons from the Japanese folk tale. This production runs April 23rd and 24th at 7:30 p.m., and April 24th and 25th at 2:00 p.m. at the RED DOOR THEATRE, 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

The spring school vacation has brought 21 young people (ages eight to 15) the opportunity to experience the Japanese culture. These thespians are spending time learning Japanese phrases, making origami projects, experimenting with stylized movement, composing haikus, and learning their roles for "URASHIMA TARO." They are constructing kimonos to be worn as

costumes, and helping to build props and set pieces for the production.

Audience members will delight in attending this stylized story of a fisherman who rescues an enchanted turtle and has a great adventure beneath the sea. This adventure is accompanied by musical instruments and authentic Japanese music.

Performers are costumed in Kabuki-style makeup, and perform often as members of the Hyashi (chorus) or Harashi (band). This is a very different production and will enchant audiences ages five and up.

Tickets are \$5 and seating is reserved. For more information or reservations, call (413) 789-2026.

* * * * *

Dick Mastroianni's "Meet The Master" is a regular feature of The Agawam Advertiser News.

* * * * *

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Education

News From The Agawam Junior High School PTO

The Agawam Junior High School PTO held its sixth meeting on Monday, March 29th. Past meeting minutes and reports from the Treasurer and School Council Representative were presented at each meeting.

Three funding requests were discussed, voted on, and all approved.

- Mr. Tomkiel requested funds to purchase T-shirts for the winners of the volleyball tournament being held during physical education classes.

- Mr. Kraus and Ms. Florek, the art teachers, requested funds to bring Mr. Don Blanter and Ms. Pam Pudlo, local artists, to the Junior High art classes for 2½ days. They will demonstrate sculpting, jewelry making, and painting, and will donate their finished painting to the school.

- Mrs. Ciarmatori, Mrs. Donaldson, and Ms. Wray requested funds for an ice cream party at the end of the semester to reward those students that have a star on the "English wall of fame." Students get a star for doing work or contributing to the class in a way that deserves recognition.

We discussed the upcoming staff appreciation breakfast to be held Tuesday, May 4th.

We discussed the eighth-grade celebration to be held at the Junior High School on Friday, June 11th, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. In May, we will start meeting with the students to plan the decorations and activities.

The Ski Club has finished for the year. It was a successful year and they are hoping to find a resort closer to home for next year.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 26th, at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria.

Phelps Library/ Media Ctr. To Be Dedicated May 2nd

The Benjamin Phelps staff and PTO invite you to attend an Open House and dedication of the new Mary E. McDowell-Cecily C. LaBonte Library/Media Center at Phelps School, 689 Main Street, Agawam on Sunday, May 2nd from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

A tour of the building to view the new addition and school renovations will be held from 2:00-3:30 p.m., with a dedication ceremony in the Library/Media Center from 3:30-4:00 p.m.

— ADVERTISER NEWS —

"Results" Of The "Mock" Accident



AT THE "MOCK" ACCIDENT held at Agawam High School, students who survived the accident (above) attended a "funeral" for the victims (below) of drunk drivers. This somber event served to reinforce the message that drinking and driving don't mix, and this message is especially important to remember during the busy prom season. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



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ONE OF THE NUMBERS during the Concert Band and Jazz Band performance that took place last month at Agawam Junior High School. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Program By Jr. High's Concert & Jazz Bands

The Agawam Junior High School Music Department presented the Junior High School Concert Band and Jazz Band in concert on March 31st in the Junior High School auditorium.

Directed by Scott L. Thomson, the concert also featured artwork by students of Debora Florek and Andrew Kraus exhibited in the lobby during intermission.

Highlights of the concert included "Blue Monk" by Thelonius Monk, arranged by Michael Sweeney, "Watermelon Man" by Herbie Hancock, arranged by Jerry Nowak, and "Mercy, Mercy, Mercy" by Joe Zawinul, arranged by Paul Jennings, all performed by the Jazz Band.

Featured performances of the Concert Band included "Rudimental Regiment" by Bruce Pearson, arranged by Chuck Elledge, "Air for Band" by Frank Erickson, and "Baby Elephant Walk" by Henry Mancini, arranged by John Edmondson.

Members of the Concert Band:

Flute - Ashley Blanchard, Alexis Chretien, Ashleigh Chrusciel, Carlie Colson, Andrea Conte, Kelly Curry, Elizabeth Haire, Rachel Keenan, Kristan LaGuercia, Ashley Marek, Christopher Martin, Shannon McDyer, Nina Murray, Courtney Poirier, Allison Siedlik, Angeline Simone, Heather Adams, Jennifer Epaul, Megan Gloster, Allison Peters, Allyson Sekula, Megan Smith, Kerry Tompsett.

Bass Clarinet - Kyla Roberts, Joanne Brignoli.

F Horn - Brianne Nicklaw, Jessica Tully

Clarinet - Sabrina Brizzolari, Nichole Circosta-Aspinal, Kevin Fleming, Kate Horniak, Jocelynn Kraus, Michael McGeoghan, Amanda Rozanski, Alfonso Santaniello, Christina Sticco, Patrick Walsh, Alexander Alvanos, Danielle Borsari, Tami Burmeister, Elizabeth Couture, Eric Dominguez, Kaitlin Gallagher, Whitney Greene, Kendall Hill, Sarah Huffman, Katie Knodler, Celena Knowlton,

Jillian Kos, Michael Laborde, Sarah Meiers, Christina Metcalf, Pavlina Moysis, Courtne Ober, Kristen Ott, Joseph Renaud, Angela Stork, Felicia Tran, Timothy Walker.

Trumpet - Kevin Athas, Ashley Brodeur, William Cochran, Jenny Leary, Justin Lepard, Erin McLane, Paul Pilegi, Maureen Quinlan, David Reynolds, Brian Sojkowski, Jesse Clausen, Thomas Depalo, Steven Kane, Nicholas Lyman, Brenton Reveruzzi, Nicole Roy, Kyle Sullivan.

Trombone - Heather Cox, Michael Ferrigno, Christopher Holl, Matthew Hayden, Lisa Ruhl, Michael Weinle.

Baritone Horn - Tom Bertrand, Chad Farrington, Jeffrey Sylvain.

Tuba - Sebastian Verelst, Colleen Knight.

Alto Saxophone - Kevin Grimaldi, Kerri Merriam, Brittany Theriaque, Brian Athas, Patrick Coffey, Marc Maloney, Adam Smith, Jawaan Wright.

Tenor Sax - Michael Lalli, Christopher Pass, Patricia Sheehan.

Baritone Sax - Gary Dionne, Brendan Cayer.

Percussion - Michael Bachini, Adam Chambers, Daniel Drewniak, Salvatore Santaniello, Benjamin Sunny, Amanda Bruno, David Duplessis, Steven Forni, Matthew Hartmann, Jeffrey Sabola, Shane Suffriti.

Jazz Band Members:

Alto Sax - Brittany Theriaque, Brian Athas.

Tenor Sax - Elizabeth Couture, Patricia Sheehan

Bari Sax - Gary Dionne

Trumpet - Brian Sojkowski, Kevin Athas, Paul Pilegi, William Cochran.

Trombone - Mike Ferrigno, Christopher Holl, Heather Cox, Michael Weinle.

Drums - Jeffrey Sabola

Piano - Patrick Walsh

Bass - David Duplessis

Guitar - Sebastian Verelst

"Make College Count" To Be Presented At AHS On May 3rd

by Frank Meagher
Guidance Coordinator, Agawam High School

If you are a parent of an Agawam High School senior accepted at a two-year or four-year college, undoubtedly your thoughts and those of your son or daughter are turning toward college and all its details - financial arrangements, safety, and dorm room decorating among them.

But, have you and your college-bound senior discussed the reasons they're going to college and what they can expect once they get there?

As a part of our efforts to prepare our seniors for college success, we are pleased to be able to offer a presentation that can play an important role in the process. "Making College Count," a practical, up-to-date look at succeeding both in and after college, will be presented at Agawam High School on May 3rd at 9:50 a.m.

I would like to personally invite you to attend this dynamic presentation, as parents across the nation have found it to be a very helpful perspective on what their students will experience (and have become better able to assist them by doing so).

"Make College Count" offers valuable perspective to students on how to:

- * Set and achieve personal success goals
- * Avoid typical freshman pitfalls
- * Manage time and set priorities in the college setting

* Achieve academic success in a challenging environment

* Effectively choose extracurricular activities to set themselves apart

* Utilize internships and other jobs to build critical skills

* Create a personal college experience that will impress future interviewers and graduate schools.

The program shares the national success statistics for today's students - and stresses that every college experience is unique. It shares fundamentals for college success - things many college students know by senior year but wish that they had understood much earlier in the process.

There is no fee to attend the presentation. Kaplan has partnered with "Making College Count" and Apple Computer, AT&T, Student Advantage, Procter & Gamble, Bose, PricewaterhouseCoopers, and KeyBank are sponsoring the entire program.

If you have any questions, please contact Frank Meagher at 821-0519. We look forward to seeing you at the "Making College Count" In-School Presentation Program.

Local Investment Professional to Host Free Seminar on Strategic Planning for Wealth Preservation

Date: Sunday, May 2nd, from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

Contact: Charlie Alvanos, American Express, 534-3883, x219

Charlie Alvanos of Feeding Hills, MA, CFP, Senior Financial Advisor, American Express Financial Advisors, Inc., will present a free, educational seminar on "Strategic Planning for Wealth Preservation" on Sunday, May 2nd, at the Saint George Greek Orthodox Cathedral Greek Cultural Center, 8 Plainfield Street, Springfield, MA. This public event is being offered in conjunction with Goldman Sachs Asset Management, a division of Goldman, Sachs & Co., and will begin at 1:00 p.m. and run until 2:30 p.m.

"Individuals today face a myriad of complicated tax and legal issues in developing a wealth preservation plan," Alvanos said.

"Strategic Planning for Wealth Preservation examines many of today's effective strategies designed to preserve wealth and efficiently pass it on to succeeding generations."

We look forward to welcoming you to this insightful and important seminar. Keep in mind, however, that reservations will be required. Anyone interested in attending should contact Charlie Alvanos by calling 534-3883, x219.

For more complete information about Goldman Sachs Funds, including information about charges and expenses, please call 534-3883, x219 for a prospectus. Please read it carefully before you invest or send money.



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KARL PS HOLKA

Karl Psholka Earns Blue Ribbon At 4-H Competition

Karl Psholka, a fourth-grade student at Granger School and a member of Kewl Kritters 4-H Club of West Springfield, recently attended the Pioneer Valley Regional Visual Presentation Competition at Smith Vocational, where he received a blue ribbon for his presentation on "How to Grow a Plant From a Cutting."

Karl was chosen to represent the Pioneer Valley at the State Visual Presentations in Bolton, Mass. In the state competition, he competed with other youths ages nine through 14 that represented other regions of the state. In the state competition, Karl received a blue rosette for first place in the junior class for Indoor Horticulture.

Karl will be giving his talk on starting plants from cuttings at the Hampden County 4-H Fair on July 31st, to be held at the Mallory Complex at The Big E. Be sure to look for Karl during The Big E at the 4-H booth in September.

Karl is also involved with a 4-H guinea pig project and plans to be showing his guinea pig at the upcoming County Fair.

For more information regarding 4-H projects, call the County Extension Service at (413) 732-2669.

Brad Tilden To Perform In Concert At Amherst College

Brad Tilden, a 1998 graduate of Agawam High School and presently a freshman at Amherst College, will be participating in the Annual Spring Concert at Amherst College.

The Concert will take place on Sunday, May 2nd, at 8:00 p.m. in Buckley Hall. Brad will be performing Sonata in C major by Haydn.

Carolyn Clini To Be Honored With Tsongas Scholarship

A Feeding Hills resident, Carolyn Clini of 180 Cambridge St., will be honored as one of the recipients of the Senator Paul E. Tsongas Scholarship. Clini is a music major.

The scholarships were presented by the Council of State College Presidents at a luncheon Wednesday, April 14th in the Great Hall of the State House.

Tsongas Scholars benefit from a full four years of study without the cost for tuition and fees. The students were chosen by each of the nine state colleges from among the most academically talented students in the Commonwealth.

The luncheon featured comments by Lieutenant Governor Jane Swift, House Speaker Thomas Finneran, and an address by Peter Meade, Executive Vice President of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts.

Other guests at the luncheon included Senator Fredrick Berry, Representatives Harold Lane and Kevin Fitzgerald, Chancellor of the Board of Higher Education Stanley Koplik, the college presidents, and the sister of Senator Tsongas, Thaleia Tsongas Schlesinger.

The scholarship program was designed by the Council of State College Presidents, in conjunction with the Board of Higher Education and the institutional Board of Trustees, to foster more scholarship aid to attract even more top students to state colleges.

Suffield Academy Honors Its Winter Term Athletes

At the Winter Term Athletic Awards Assembly recently held at Suffield Academy, the following area students were honored with special awards and varsity letters.

Boys' Basketball: Varsity Letter - Jeffrey Beaudette of Agawam.

Dance: Varsity Letter - Melissa Knight of Agawam.

Rifery: Varsity Letter - Sarah Cowan of Agawam.

Boys' Swimming: Class of 1981 Swimming Award - Jeffrey Rivkin of Agawam.

Girls' Swimming: Varsity Letters - Katherine Kilrain, Co-Captain, of Feeding Hills, and Jennifer Modzesky of Feeding Hills.

Wrestling: Varsity Letter - Brandon Orsatti of Agawam.

Area Pupils On St. Mary's Honor Roll

The following area students have been named to the honor roll for the third quarter at St. Mary's School in Longmeadow.

Karen Prisby (grade 8, High Honors); Angela DeCosmo (grade 8, Honors); Thomas DeCosmo (grade 6, High Honors); Mark DaSilva (grade 6, Honors); Cathryn Joyce, Michael Prisby (grade 5, High Honors); Brielle Beaudette (grade 4, High Honors).

* * *

*Be sure to check our
classifieds each week...*

* * *

Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, April 26th: Steamed frankfurt in roll, Boston baked beans, oven potato rounds, peaches in syrup, milk.

Tuesday, April 27th: Teriyaki rib dip-pers, niblet corn, cinnamon applesauce, bread and butter, raspberry jello with topping, milk.

Wednesday, April 28th: Rotini with meatsauce, tossed garden salad with spinach greens and dressing, Italian bread and butter, chocolate oatmeal bar or fruit cup, milk.

Thursday, April 29th: Chicken parmesan sandwich, seasoned peas and carrots, steamed rice, sliced apples in cinnamon and sugar, milk.

Friday, April 30th: Grilled cheese sandwich, seasoned potato wedges, niblet corn, jello with topping or fruit cup, milk.

(Tickets may be purchased on Monday in the elementary schools for the week. Meal price is \$1.10 daily. If paying by check, make check out to "Agawam School Lunch.")

Local Students Awarded Barr Fellowships

Lorna R. Blake, Chairman of the Walter S. Barr Fellowship Committee of The Horace Smith Fund, announced that \$60,000 in Barr Fellowships will be distributed to Hampden County residents for the 1999-2000 year.

Chairperson Blake stated that \$20,000 has been awarded to five new recipients and an additional \$40,000 will be distributed to 10 previous winners who are still in graduate programs.

The 1999 winners included Dana A. Fuller of Agawam and Beth Marie Meagher of Feeding Hills.

A graduate of Agawam High School and Trinity College in Connecticut, Middlebury College, and Novgorod State University in Russia, Mr. Fuller will concentrate on Russian and Slavic Languages and Literature.

Ms. Beth Marie Meagher is a graduate of Agawam High School and Smith College. She plans to study Clinical Psychology and Human Resource Development in her graduate program.

Jr. High PTO To Hold Next Meeting On Monday, April 26th

The Agawam Junior High School PTO will hold its next meeting on Monday, April 26th, at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria.

All interested parents and teachers are invited to attend.

The May meeting will be held on Monday, May 24th.

ADVERTISER NEWS

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Sports

Softball Versus Ludlow...

Brownies Now At 6-0, Thanks To 10-1 Win Over Lackluster Lions

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High girls' softball team improved to 6-0 with a 10-1 win over visiting Ludlow High on Monday afternoon, April 19th. It was a win for senior Lindsay Mason, who ran her record to 2-0. She has been pitching with a bad back but was ready to go, turning in a good, gut-check performance.

The Lions would score their lone run in the first. A walk, followed by a triple, did the deed. After that, the Brownie senior tamed the Lions on two more hits. She would also ring up five strikeouts and just one walk.

The Brownies, once again using their multifaceted game, scored in their half of the first when Tiffany Blackman walked, stole second and third, and came home on a Dianna DiStefano sacrifice fly.

The Brownies were shut down more or less until the fourth. With one out, DiStefano led off with a single. She was tripled in by sophomore Jill Gendron. Gendron was sent home by a Jen Lyman

single up the middle.

Then, Allison Pisano rapped another single and runners were at the corners with one out. After a strikeout, Amanda Merola stepped in with two down. Her single to center brought Lyman home. With runners at second and first, Jess Montagna doubled them both in to give the defending Western Mass. champions a 6-1 lead.

The Montagna deal was interesting. She creamed the ball and had a home run in her sights. Unfortunately, the senior failed to touch third on her journey around the bases. The appeal held up and she was credited with a double.

The Brownies Weren't Finished...

Agawam wasn't done. In the fifth, Blackman singled then stole second and third. An Erin Rescigno single drove her in. With one gone, Lyman reached on an error. Then Pisano made it on a bad throw from short to first, driving in two more runs.

Ludlow was shut down once more in the sixth, which was highlighted by a nice play courtesy of

Montagna in rightfield. The ball was hit sharply between first and second. Montagna alertly changed it and made the scoop. Maybe the Lion runner didn't realize just how aggressive the Agawam fielders are, but she found out fast enough. Montagna made the throw to first (something you almost never see) and got the out, 9-3.

Agawam would get its final run in the bottom of the sixth. Caitlyn Conte got aboard on an error, then went to second and third on two passed balls. From there, a single in the short, third hole by Blackman drove her home.

AGAWAM STATS: Blackman — 2-3, 1 rbi, 2 rs; Rescigno — 1-4, 1 rbi, 1 sb, 1 rs, 1 sb; DiStefano — 1-3, 1 rbi, 1 rs; Gendron — 1-3 (3b), 1 rbi, 1 rs; Lyman — 1-3, 1 rbi, 2 rs; Pisano — 1-3, 2 rbi, 1 rs; Moysis — 0-3; Merola — 1-3, 1 rbi, 1 rs; Montagna — 1-2 (2b), 2 rbi; Clark — 0-1; Conte — 0-1.

PITCHING: Mason (w) — 6 IP, 3 H, 1 R, 1 ER, 5 SO, 2 W, 1.00 ERA.

LOB: Agawam, 3; Ludlow, 4.

Baseball Versus South Hadley...

Brownies Shut Out Toothless Tigers On The Road, 4-0

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High baseball team traveled to Tiger country last Friday afternoon and came away with a 4-0 win over South Hadley High. In the process, senior righthander Dave Federico came away with his second win of the season against no losses.

Federico had the opponents figured out from the get-go. He mixed up his pitches, combining a sneaky fastball with curves and a change-up here and there. He scattered six hits, dusted two, and walked a couple.

Federico was never in trouble in gaining Agawam's third win against one loss. But the Brownies had to tread water for a while before they scored their runs. The first two came in the sixth inning. Derek Mercadante singled to center. Then Jack Pearson, who was supposed to simply lay down a sacrifice bunt to advance Mercadante, set down a beauty that saw runners on first and second.

Brian St. Jean followed that up with a walk to load the bases with no outs. Third baseman Tony LeClair then belted a rope past second, scoring Mercadante, while the runners advanced. A high fly to left by Brian Chechile saw St. Jean race home with Agawam's second run.

The Brownies' Second Deuce...

Their second deuce came in the top of the seventh. With two down, Ryan Drobot, patient as usual, drew a walk and stole second and third — some gutsy stuff considering there were two outs. But then, they were only up by two and South Hadley would have the last at-bat. Mercadante also walked, putting Brownies at the corners. Two straight singles off the bats of Erik Bodurtha and St. Jean drove home Drobot and Mercadante to make the final, 4-0, Agawam.

This was a big game for the Brownies. They were coming off a frustrating, 3-1 loss to Minnechaug Regional, so this one was a confidence

booster.

Brownie Coach Pete Clark, who is a master at managing his hurlers, decided Federico had gone long enough and sent in lefthander Ben Lapins to mop up in the seventh. The sophomore did just that, striking out one and getting two more on a couple of fly-outs while giving up a walk.

If Federico was the start on the hill, St. Jean did himself proud at the plate with a double and two singles.

AGAWAM STATS: Wayte — 0-3; Carney — 0-2, 1 sb; Drobot — 0-3, 1 rs; Mercadante — 1-3, 1 rs; Bodurtha — 1-3, 1 rbi, 1 sb; St. Jean — 3-3 (2b), 1 sb, 1 rbi; LeClair — 1-3, 1 rbi, 1 sb; Chechile — 0-3, 1 rbi.

PITCHING: Federico (w) — 6 IP, 2 H, 0 R, 0 ER, 2 SO, 2 W, 0.00 ERA; Lapins — 1 IP, 0 H, 0 R, 0 ER, 1 SO, 1 W, 0.00 ERA.

LOB: Agawam, 10; South Hadley, 5.

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Baseball Versus Westfield...

AHS Chalks Up Satisfying, 11-4 Win At Home

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Agawam High has been itching to see the Westfield High baseball team ever since the Bombers beat them 10-4 last year in the first round of the Division I Western Mass. Tournament.

AHS got its chance Monday afternoon, April 19th, at Harmon Smith Field and came away with a satisfying, 11-4 victory. "Yeah, we were focused for this one," Agawam Coach Pete Clark smiled when it was over.

Perhaps the most focused of them all was ace Brian St. Jean. The junior owned the Bombers for 5½ innings before Clark yanked him. "Brian threw 100 pitches. That was enough work for one day," the coach explained. Kevin Mattson came in to close things out.

Actually, St. Jean started this one on shaky ground. Senior pitcher Rick Baker, leading off the game, took him halfway to Springfield to give Westfield an early 1-0 lead.

Still, the locals really didn't need to worry all that much; they got it back, plus some in the bottom of the first. Chris Wayte hit a lame duck to third. The throw to first was somewhere out near East Overshoe. Wayte then went to third on two strikeouts (one a leg-job by Scott Harlin).

There were two down when Derek Mercadante stalked to the plate. Baker, who had just hit the bomb in the top of the inning, has a good curve. Unfortunately for him, he hung one to the junior, who promptly deposited the ball to deep left ... and the result was a two-run homer and a lead the Brownies would never relinquish.

Making the Bombers Walk On Their Heels...

St. Jean, with all the cushion he would need, then proceeded to make the Bombers walk on their heels until he departed. Agawam would have no such problems. They scored two more in the second.

Federico singled and went to third on a Carney single down the third baseline. A strikeout saw Agawam runners on second and third. Harlin then drove a crazy hop to Baker, who snagged it and gunned down Federico (the lead man) at home. Harlin then stole second to put himself and Carney (on third) in scoring position. Designated hitter Kevin Mattson then drilled a triple to deep center, scoring two more runs.

Agawam was just getting started. Up 4-1, they struck again in the third. St. Jean drew a walk and a Carney single got him home.

The "Deluge" Of The Fourth Inning...

If the Bombers' dike had a crack in it, the Agawam fourth saw the dribble turn into a deluge. The first three hitters came close to the cycle. Harlin led-off with a single. Mattson (who is swinging a hot bat) stroked a double, scoring Harlin.

And Mercadante (also a hot hitter) drove Mattson home with a triple. By now Baker was looking for the exit. He got his walking papers from Coach Tom Sgroi. But the hurt wasn't over for last year's Valley Wheel co-champions. Two straight walks to Bodurtha and St. Jean set things up for LeClair, who was up with the bases loaded. He topped one back to new Westfield pitcher Jeff Hopkins. Hopkins went to third for the fielder's choice on Bodurtha. The throw was wild, scoring Mercadante and Bodurtha. St. Jean ended up on third, with LeClair perched on second.

Then Wayte came up with two down and reached on an error at first, driving in two more runs. He would get picked off 1-3 to end the Agawam threat. The home team was up by 10, 11-1.

Agawam would score no more. St. Jean had a rocky sixth, ending up with the bases loaded and two outs. Mattson came in and got a grounder to Federico at second to end the inning.

The Bombers would score three in the seventh. But it was asking too much for them to come all the way back. "There's no doubt if we play this well against a perennial champion like Westfield, we'll go a long way in the playoffs," Clark admitted. Agawam rose to 4-1. The Bombers fell to 3-2.

BROWNIE STATS: Wayte — 0-4, 2 rbi, 1 rs; Harlin — 1-4, 2 rs; Mattson — 2-3 (2b, 3b), 2 rbi, 1 rs; Mercadante — 2-3 (hr, 3b), 3 rbi, 2 rs; Bodurtha — 0-2, 1 sb; St. Jean — 0-0, 2 rs; LeClair — 0-3, 2 rbi, 1 rs; Federico — 1-4; Carney — 2-4, 1 rbi, 1 rs; Drobot — 0-1.

PITCHING: St. Jean (w 2-1) — 5½ IP, 2 H, 1 R, 1 ER, 6 SO, 4 W, 1.23 ERA; Mattson — 1½ IP, 0 H, 0 R, 0 ER, 2 SO, 5 W, 0.00 ERA.

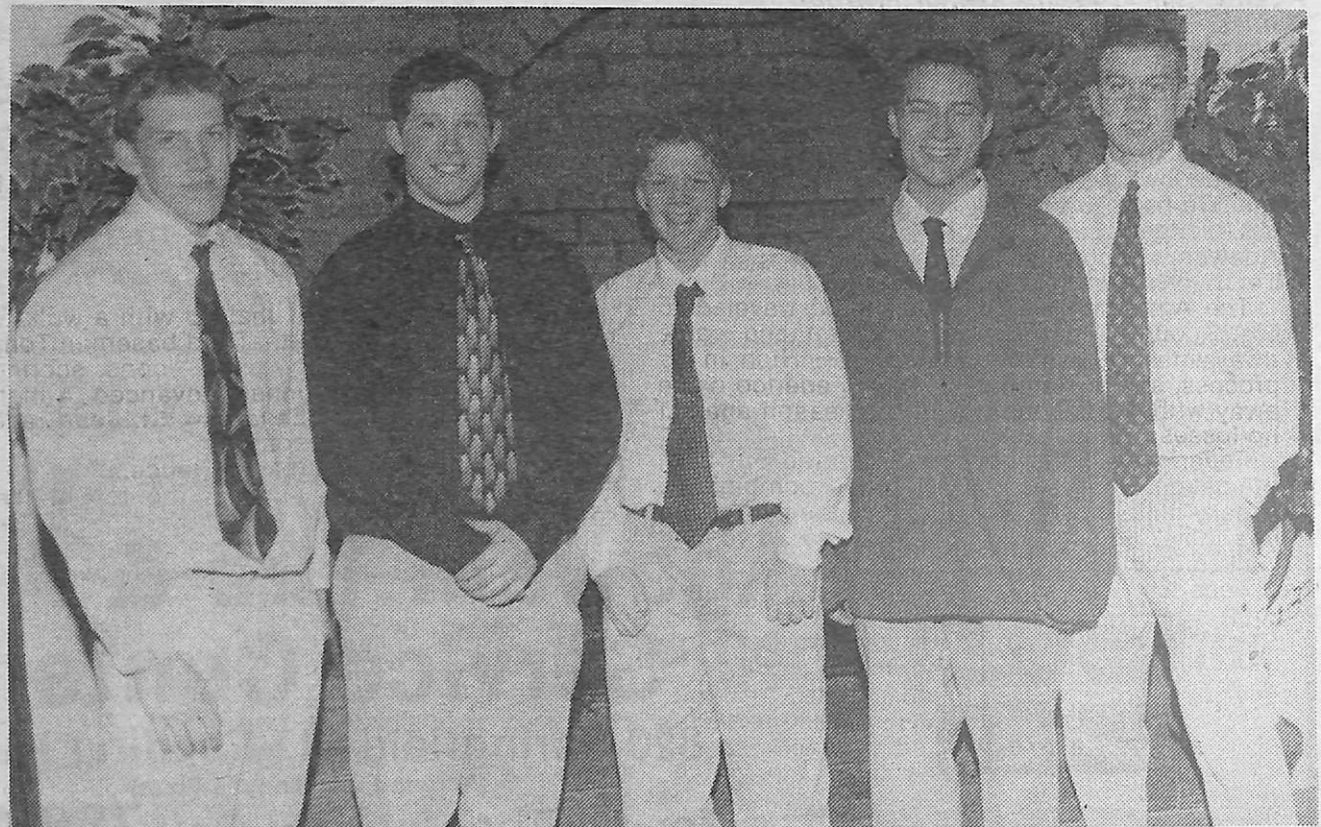
LOB: Agawam, 7; Westfield, 10.

Check our classified ads in each edition...

AHS Hockey Team At Banquet...



AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL'S 1998-99 hockey team held its end-of-the-season banquet earlier this month at Ferruccio's Banquet House in Agawam. From left to right: Head Coach Fran Pycko, captains Andrew Radwanski and Josh Sprague, Assistant Coach John Cirelli, and Assistant Goalie Coach Bryan Hollister. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



THE SENIOR MEMBERS OF Agawam High's 1998-99 hockey team (from left to right): Andrew Radwanski, Tony Kosinski, Dave Hearn, Josh Sprague, and Mike Schmidt. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Baseball Versus Chicopee...

Pacers Outpace Visiting Brownies, 9-8, At Szot Park

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

A day after their big win over Westfield High, Agawam High traveled to Szot Park for a game against Chicopee High. The Pacers hadn't played many games (they were 1-1 at that point) because the park wasn't ready for competition. They played well enough in this one to beat the Brownies, 9-8 in 10 innings.

Before the game, Agawam Coach Peter Clark was careful. "You just don't know in baseball. Anything can happen. This will be a tough game." He was right.

Clark started left-hander Ben Lapins. For five innings, the sophomore showed well, striking out six and giving up three hits. During that time, his club staked him to a 1-0 lead.

The first Brownie run came in the third. Dave Federico got nailed by a pitch, then stole second. Chris Wayte laid down a sac bunt, advancing Federico to third. A Mike Carney flyball to left got Federico home.

A Wild Dogfight In The Sixth

The wheels started to come off for Lapins in the

sixth as things turned into a wild dogfight. He gave up a single, triple, and double in that order. Then Lapins walked the next two hitters to load up the bases with no outs. Clark had seen enough. Lapins went to left. Scott Harlin took the mound. The Pacers scored two more runs before Agawam got out of the inning (down 4-1).

The Brownies, behind some timely hitting by Brian St. Jean, Federico, and Carney, scored six in their half of the seventh to take a 7-4 lead into the bottom of the inning. The Pacers weren't done and three runs tied things up, sending the game into extra innings.

Federico had come on to pitch for Agawam in the seventh. He was working on four days' rest. And after Agawam had scored a run in the eighth, Chicopee answered with one of its own in the bottom of the inning. It was tied at eight going into the 10th.

Two straight Pacer doubles in the bottom of the that inning did it for the home team. Agawam fell to 4-2. Chicopee went to 2-1 in a non-league game.

Girls' Lacrosse Vs Longmeadow...

Lancers Dominate Brownies, 19-8

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Despite two goals apiece from Ann Paquette and Kara Barnes, the Longmeadow High girls' lacrosse team was just too much for the visiting Agawam High Brownies on Tuesday afternoon, April 20th, winning 19-8.

Agawam was never really in this one. They trailed 10-5 at the end of the first half. The Lancers, with a long tradition of excellent lacrosse, were just too good with their stickwork.

Agawam made a slight charge in the second half behind Amanda Sternowski, Kate Shannon, and Paquette. But, the Lancer midfielders took the play away from them and mounted a charge of their own.

That forced the Brownies to fall back on defense behind Christina Gregory, Laura Reveruzzi, and Heather Hughes. They played as well as they could. But, Longmeadow scored three quick goals in a span of four minutes to widen its margin to 13-6. Barnes tried to make up the difference with her two scores at 9:40 and 11 minutes into the second half.

Longmeadow Scores Three Quick Ones

Longmeadow, however, seemed to have an answer for any kind of offense the Brownies could muster. They came back and scored three quick goals of their own. As the game wound down, the Lancers had a comfortable 17-7 lead.

Each club would score one more time. Agawam's final goal came with three minutes left. Barnes, Gregory, and Paquette set up Sarah Prussman and the junior drove it home.

Later Agawam Coach Cindy Grieve was obviously disappointed. "Yeah, it's a little frustrating," she said. When asked what the girls' lacrosse program has to do to get to Longmeadow's level, she answered, "We're very close. We have to practice harder on a constant basis."

Agawam's record is 4-2. Longmeadow rose to 5-1 in the Western Mass. girls' lacrosse league.

Ricky Miller Continues Hot Streak On April 17th At Riverside Speedway

Agawam Driver Captures 4th Straight NAPA Modified Win

In the first event of a NASCAR doubleheader weekend at Riverside Park Speedway, a star-studded NAPA Modified field battled for 50 laps, and Agawam driver Ricky Miller continued to tear up the competition, collecting his fourth consecutive win.

Other winners from Riverside Park Speedway's second full night of competition were John Lobo in the Serv-U Auto Supply Pro Stock division; Ernie Tarca with his second straight feature win in the Teddy Bear Pools Truck division; and Don Pinette, who captured the first Figure 8 feature race of the season.

Miller's winning streak dates back to September 5, 1998, when he captured the final leg of the Bud Triple Crown Series. Miller was undoubtedly the hottest driver at the end of the season, collecting another victory at Riverside on November 1st. Running on the same tires he used in November, Miller opened up the '99 season with a win on April 10th.

Miller moved up from the eighth starting position and held off some tough challenges from Rob Summers, Dave Berube, and Ted Christopher before pulling into victory lane. NASCAR Featherlite Modified Series regular Ed Flemke, Jr. also joined the competition on Saturday night, coming home in the fifth position after starting 10th.

A flock of veteran drivers challenged Lobo in the Serv-U Auto Supply Pro Stock feature, but

Lobo held his line and captured his first win of the season. Defending NASCAR Short-Track Series Regional Champion Eddy Carroll III was second, followed by Rich Vasseur, Barry Gray, and Jay Miller in fifth.

Ernie Tarca, an eight-year veteran of Riverside Park's old Late Model division, remained winless throughout the inaugural Teddy Bear Pools Truck season, but opened up the 1999 season with a win on April 10th. Tarca of East Granby, CT, returned to victory lane last Saturday, followed by Rob Valerio, defending truck division champion Ted Chalmers, Pat Kretschman, and Mike Salmond in fifth.

Riverside Park's thrilling Figure 8 division opened its season with an exciting duel between brothers Don and Bob Pinette. Don Pinette was able to hold off brother Bob before taking down the season-opening win. John Gagnon was third, followed by Roger Macznik and Herb Favreau in fifth.

NASCAR Winston Racing Series action returns to Riverside Park Speedway on Saturday, April 24th, at 6:00 p.m. Twin 35's are on tap for the NAPA Modifieds, along with the Teddy Bear Pools Trucks, Sportsman, Super Stocks, and the Figure 8 division.

For more information, call (413) 786-9300 or visit www.riversideparkspeedway.com on the world wide web.

* * * * *

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

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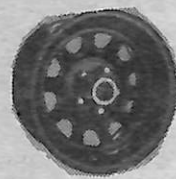
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Avalanche A Team Dominates PeeWee Hockey League

From the Berkshires to Cape Cod, the Bay West Avalanche PeeWee A team left an indelible impression on all who played or watched them. There was no doubt that they were a hockey team to be reckoned with.

The team (and that is one of the reasons they were so dominant when they played; you see they knew there was no "I" in the word team) is made up of players from West Springfield, Agawam, Westfield, and Lenox.

Meet the team, top goaltender Adam Roy was a stingy netminder; allowing only 15 goals in 18 Greater Springfield Junior Amateur League games, that's a .83 game average.

The big, strong, unflinching defense included Tom Douglas, Mike Gallagher, J.D. Korepta, and Nick Scott. They gave as good as they got, protected their goalie, and even were a scoring threat.

The talented, tenacious, determined, heads-up offense consisted of Rich Borsari, Tony Bragga, the Harlow Brothers (Robbie and Shannon), Kevin Lang, Dan Mancini, and Mark Suchy. They pounded in 93 goals during league play, an average of 5.4 goals per game.

Bursts of power and speed, outstanding skating ability, sharp passing, maneuverability, good eyes, strong legs, soft hands, quick reflexes, patience (most of the time), tenacity, concentration, unselfishness, hard work, the desire to win, and great heart were the collective traits that these boys brought to this team. When an opposing team double-teamed and tied up one of their teammates, whether offense or defense, another player would step up — making it virtually impossible to stop them. This team became a team made up of friends who liked and enjoyed each other almost as much as the game of hockey.

Coaches Rick Borsari, Anthony Bragga, and Bussy Collette skillfully channelled the team's talent, endless energy, and innate ability and coached them into a hard-hitting, fast-skating, goal-scoring team that dug in the corners, back checked, gave as good as they got, and usually outplayed every team that they faced (even on the rare occasions when they lost).

Dominating play wherever they went, they proved to be one of the top PeeWee (ages 11 and 12) teams in the state.

In tournament competition, they were 14-3-1; beating, among other teams, Newton, Waltham, Concord, Charlestown, Gardner, Cape Cod, Medfield, and Nashoba.

In January, they competed in the Bay State Games which were held in North Adams, where in



THE BAY WEST AVALANCHE PEEWEE A TEAM: front row - Rich Borsari, Kevin Lang, Anthony Bragga, Adam Roy, Shannon Harlow, and Robbie Harlow; back row - Coach Rick Borsari, Tommy Douglas, J.D. Korepta, Nick Scott, Coach Buzzy Collette, Mark Suchy, Dan Mancini, Mike Gallagher, and Coach Anthony Bragga.

the finals they humbled rival Holy Name by drubbing them 8-2 to win the gold medal.

In the Christmas Tournament in Acton, they beat Newton, Waltham, and Gardner only to lose to Waltham in the finals.

They went on to win the District 6 Western Mass. Championship by soundly disposing of the Springfield Caps, Amherst, and in the finals putting away the strong, fast-skating Berkshire Rattlers, 4-0. Winning District 6 put them in the State Finals, where they played well, but were defeated.

In the Cape Cod PeeWee tournament in March, they had outstanding games; defeating Cape Cod, 6-3, Waltham, 4-1, Concord, 5-1, and in the finals put away an undefeated Nashoba, 4-3, in a double overtime thriller.

They dominated league play with a record of 17

wins and one loss, 93 goals for and a skimpy 15 against.

They capped off their impressive season with the GSJHL playoffs by soundly and finally (again) defeating arch-rival Holy Name, 4-1, before an appreciative crowd at the Springfield Civic Center.

When all was said and done, this talented team ended up with an equally impressive record: preseason, 7 wins, 0 losses; season play, 17 wins, 1 loss; tournament play, 14 wins, 3 losses, and 1 tie; playoffs, 6 wins, 1 loss.

Their final record was 47 wins, 5 losses, and 1 tie. It is a record that enables them to stand proudly as one of the best in the state in the 1998-1999 hockey season. Their GSJHL trophy, plaque, and team pictures are proudly on display at Curry Copy on Elm Street, West Springfield.

For photo coverage in The AAN, call photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053.



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Pioneer Valley Soccer Round-Up

U14 Agawam Tigers Start Strong In Div. I

The U14 Agawam Tigers stand at 2-1-1 in the early going of the spring Pioneer Valley Soccer season in girls' division one.

The Tigers began with a 1-0 win over Gateway at the windy Agawam Middle School on April 7th. Despite dominating from start to finish, the Tigers failed to score on three breakaways and missed many opportunities to score.

The only goal came with less than four minutes remaining when Kaitlin Sardella's corner kick was deflected by striker Shannon Cook over to wing Jennifer Sharpe, who tapped the ball into the wide open net.

Goalie Vicky Taylor registered the easy shutout and received strong support from Tricia Fitchben, Ellen Rannenber, Sherri Laskowski (all defenders), and sweeper Kim Hoague.

At a cold and windy 8:00 a.m. start vs. Longmeadow on Saturday, April 10th at Wolf Swamp Field, the Tigers prevailed 2-0 in a game they again held a wide territorial advantage.

The front line of Shannon Cook, Danielle Cirillo, and Kaitlin Sardella kept Long. pinned in a scoreless first half and received good support from midfielders Whitney Brown, Meaghan Brown, and Aimee Beaudette.

The Tigers scored twice in the second half. The first goal came when Kaitlin Sardella stole the ball from the goalie just inside the 18-yard line and sent a pass to Danielle Cirillo for the easy tap-in score.

The locals put the game away with 10 minutes left when striker Danielle Cirillo's perfect pass was one-timed into the left corner of the net by Kaitlin Sardella from the right-corner of the box.

The locals got good efforts from fullback/wing Melissa Savenko and midfielder Nicole Gendreau. Goalie Vicky Taylor again registered the shutout as defenders Kim Hoague, Ellen Rannenber, Tricia Fitchben, and Sherri Laskowski kept the ball out of harm's way.

On windy Wednesday, April 14th, the Tigers were victimized by great goaltending by Cold Spring of Belchertown in a 0-0 tie. The Tigers peppered the Cold Spring goal from all angles but the aggressive netminder and some terrific work by the Cold Spring defense managed to keep the locals off the board despite the heavy pressure. Vicky Taylor registered her third straight shutout in the Agawam goal.

SEE TIGERS - Page 44...



THE MEMBERS OF THE "AGAWAM LIGHTNING": standing (left to right) - Assistant Coach Bob Gonyeau, Adam Witte, Danny Goncalves, Kurt Ripke, Head Coach Amaro Goncalves, Kevin Daubitz, Drew Fila, Mike Malerba, and Assistant Coach Bob Schwein; kneeling (from left to right) - Van Gruska, Bruce Chelkonas, Austin Santolini, Sean Moriarty, Adam Gonyeau, and Alex Schwein.

In Games & Lanes Session III...

Agawam Lightning (PVJSL U-9 Boys) Are Indoor Soccer Champs

The Agawam Lightning boys' soccer team (PVJSL U-9 Boys) completed a very successful indoor soccer season at Games & Lanes in Agawam by winning the U-10 Boys' Division, Session III.

The team finished the session with an overall record of eight wins and one loss, and defeating the house team by a score of 6-0 in the championship game on April 5th. This final victory avenged an earlier loss to the same house team (score 1-2) during the Session II final on February 14th.

The team's overall indoor record for Sessions II and III was 15 wins and two losses.

This young team, together since January,

demonstrated great ball control, discipline, tenacity, and intensity throughout the indoor season at Games & Lanes. Team effort and unselfish play was a constant characteristic for this soccer team.

Every member had a positive impact on the team performance, and ended the indoor season a much better player and ready to face the challenges of the outdoor spring season of the Pioneer Valley Junior Soccer League in the U-9 Boys' Division that started on April 7th.

Congratulations to the team for a great season. Let's keep up the great teamwork.

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Pioneer Valley Soccer Round-Up - continued...

Ball Hogs Face Two Ludlow Teams & Wilbraham In Early Spring Soccer

The Ball Hogs, who earned the U-12 Boys' "Division Champs" Title in the Games and Lanes indoor soccer league, faced the Ludlow Raiders on Tuesday, April 6th, in their first game of the season. The game ended in a 3-3 tie.

Although Ludlow scored a goal in the first two minutes of the games, Ball Hogs left wing Ryan Wytrych assisted in two goals, within minutes of each other, one scored by center Anthony DePalma and the other by right wing Anthony Costa. Ludlow came back and tied the game by halftime.

In the second half, again Ludlow scored first; however, the Ball Hogs continued to dominate the game with over 10 shots on goal, including several by Chris Alvanos, Ryan Wytrych, Anthony DePalma, and Anthony Costa. The Ball Hogs never let up on the pressure, while the superb defense by Steven Carmody, Steven Donah, Chris Wyman, Thomas Albano, and Alfredo Septembre made it extremely difficult for Ludlow to score.

Ludlow had only five other shots on goal throughout the game, and goalie Carmino Bonavita blocked them all. With 10 minutes remaining in the game, left wing Ryan Wytrych brought the ball up the field and slipped it into the goal, bringing the game to a tie.

On Saturday, April 10th, the Ball Hogs lost to Wilbraham (T.C.), 1-0. Although Wilbraham dominated the game, the Ball Hogs held them to one goal.

In the last 10 minutes of the game, the Ball Hogs played their hardest but could not put one in.

On Saturday, April 17th, the Ball Hogs challenged Ludlow 1 Sport in a 2-2 tie. Ten minutes into the game, right wing Anthony Costa passed the ball to center Anthony DePalma, who scored the first goal by following up on a rebound after his first attempt hit the goal post. Five minutes later, Ludlow came back to score while the Ball Hogs defense never let up on the pressure.

Front linesman Ryan Wytrych scored a goal on a pass from right wing Victor Fiorentino to bring the Ball Hogs ahead 2-1 at the end of the first half. In the second half, Ludlow came back and scored to even up the game. Once again, outstanding defense by Steven Donah, Randy Holmes, Chris Wyman, Alfredo Septembre, and Thomas Albano never let up through the game.

Numerous other attempts to score by Anthony DePalma, Ryan Wytrych, and Anthony Costa were not successful, and in the last five minutes of the game, defenseman Chris Wyman "saved the game" with an awesome block inside the goal ... way to go, Chris!

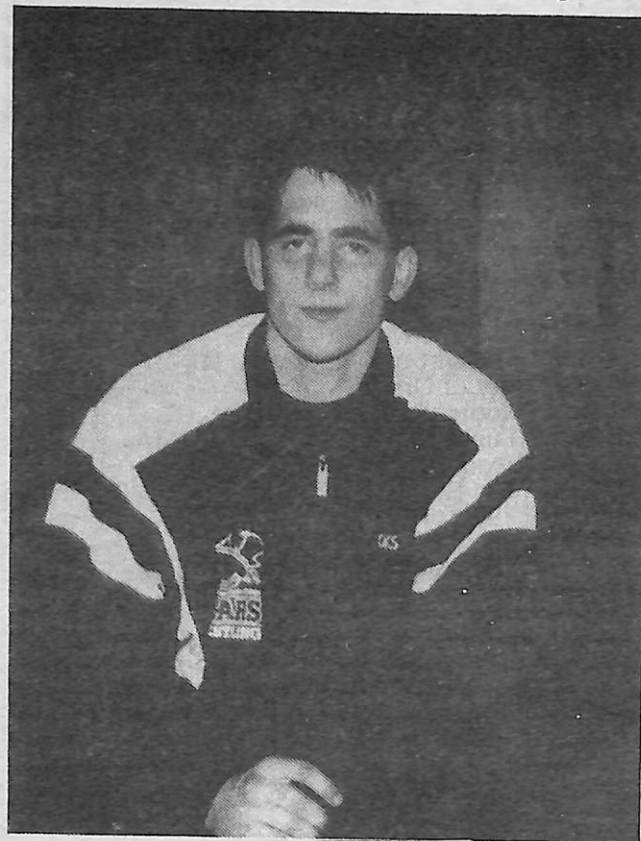
Throughout the game, goalie Chris Alvanos stopped several well-positioned shots by Ludlow. Coach Tony DePalma is excited about the challenges he will face in the spring season.

The Ball Hogs' record stands at 0-1-2.

On Thursday, April 22nd (presstime), the Ball Hogs were scheduled to face Wilbraham (T.B.), and on Saturday, April 24th, they will play against Springfield Moving PIC.

Although EL carried the play in the opening half, it was Agawam that had the better chances to score. Center-fullback Shannon Cook had a monster game in the backline, as did sweeper Kim Hoague. The Tigers were hurt in the second half when fullback Sherri Laskowski went out with a knee injury and fullback Tricia Fitchben was hobbled with a bruised foot but still managed to play.

— Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon ... AAN!!! —



KEVIN WILLARD

At Bridgewater State..

Kevin Willard Receives Wrestling Varsity Letter

Agawam's Kevin Willard has received a varsity letter following the 1998-99 Bridgewater State College wrestling season.

The Bears were coached by Mike Perreira in his first season at Bridgewater.

Willard is a graduate of Agawam High School, where he participated in soccer, tennis, and wrestling. He competed in the 141-pound weight class for the Bears this season.

Willard is a senior at Bridgewater State College, majoring in English. He is the son of Walter Willard of Agawam.

TIGERS - from Page 43...

On Saturday, April 17th, the Tigers faced perennial league power East Longmeadow at the Middle School and lost 1-0. EL scored with under two minutes left in the game on a direct kick from 25 yards following a takedown outside the penalty area. Goalie Vicky Taylor, who was under intense pressure in the second half, had no chance.

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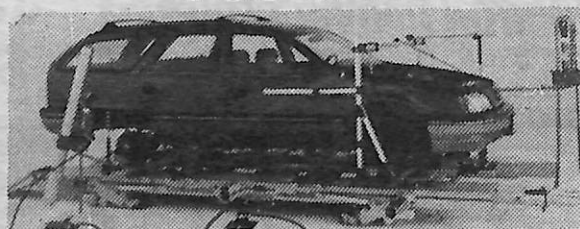
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Unofficial Finishes For April 17th At Riverside

Teddy Bear Pools Truck Division

1. Ernie Tarca of East Granby, CT.
2. Rob Valerio of New Britain, CT.
3. Ted Chalmers of Holyoke, MA.
4. Pat Kretschman of Shelton, CT.
5. Mike Salmond of Ludlow, MA.
6. Kris Valerio of Bristol, CT.
7. E.J. Lagacy of Agawam, MA.
8. Skip Breunig of Milford, CT.
9. Brian Merchant of Wilbraham, MA.
10. Gee Perry of Granby, CT.
11. Brian Montgomery of Cheshire, CT.
12. Travis Lucia of West Springfield, MA.
13. Jim Larsen of East Hartland, CT.
14. David Van Ryn of Granby, CT.
15. Keith Miller of Broadbrook, CT.
16. Rit Dulac of Plantsville, CT.
17. Chris Johnson of Pittsfield, MA

Serv-U Auto Supply Pro Stock Division

1. John Lobo of Southampton, MA.
2. Eddy Carroll of Longmeadow, MA.
3. Rich Vasseur of Ellington, CT.
4. Barry Gray of Belchertown, MA.
5. Jay Miller of East Granby, CT.
6. Jim Banfield of South Glastonbury, CT.
7. Scott Bouley of Thomaston, CT.
8. Bennett Fuller of Enfield, CT.
9. Les Hinckley III of Windsor Locks, CT.
10. Jim Mavlouganes of Wethersfield, CT.
11. Sonny Fiega of Springfield, MA.
12. Rick Turcotte of Hampden, MA.
13. Jeff Connors of Ellington, CT.
14. Tim Strojny of Southampton, MA.
15. Tom Fearn of Agawam, MA.
16. Blaine Belz of Moodus, CT.
17. Joe Myette of Southwick, MA.
18. Joe Perry of Ashaway, RI.
19. Todd Owen of Somers, CT.
20. Keith Morgan of Berlin, CT.
21. Patrick Townsend of Springfield, MA.

NAPA Modified Division

1. Ricky Miller of Agawam, MA.
2. Rob Summers of Manchester, CT.
3. David Berube of Bristol, CT.
4. Ted Christopher of Plainville, CT.
5. Ed Flemke, Jr. of Southington, CT.
6. Dan Avery of Somers, CT.
7. Eddy Spiers of Beacon Falls, CT.
8. Bob Polverari of West Springfield, MA.
9. Jimmy Broderick of Brookfield, CT.
10. Joe Czarnecki of Westfield, MA.
11. Renee Dupuis of Glastonbury, CT.
12. Chris Kopec of Ware, MA.
13. Jeff Baral of Windsor, CT.
14. Ken Marques of Canton, CT.
15. Ted Riggott of East Hartland, CT.
16. Tom Jensen of Southington, CT.
17. Dan Grasso of Windsor Locks, CT.
18. Brad Hietala of Ellington, CT.
19. Dennis Charette of Southington, CT.
20. Chris Wenzel of Holyoke, MA.
21. Bill Bolton of Somers, CT.
22. Todd Owen of Somers, CT.
23. Ray Townsend of Springfield, MA

Eddie Flemke, Jr. Wins Pepsi 200 At Riverside On Apr. 18th

The Featherlite Modified Series, a NASCAR Touring division, returned to Riverside Park Speedway on Sunday, April 18th, for the running of the Pepsi 200.

After passing defending race winner Reggie Ruggiero late in the race, Eddie Flemke, Jr. of Southington, CT, became the second Featherlite Modified Series victor of the 1999 season. Five-time Riverside Park track champion Bob Polverari, who also captured the Bud Pole Award for the race, finished an impressive second behind Flemke after remaining at the front of the field for most of the race.

Also in action was the Serv-U Auto Supply Pro Stock division, and Jeff Connors of Ellington, CT, captured his first win of the year. Skip Breunig of Milford, CT, captured his first win of the year in the Teddy Bear Pools Truck division, after repairing some heavy damage sustained to his number 2 truck in the feature the night before. Herb Carlson of Windsor, CT, captured the Sportsman division win, and Carl Holmgren, Jr. of East Hartford, CT, earned his first career victory in the Super Stock division.

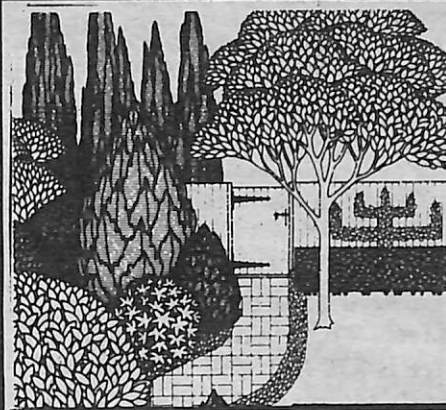
Connors outdistanced fellow Ellington resident Rich Vasseur and division top-runners Barry Gray and Eddy Carroll III before taking the checkered flag. It was a return to the spotlight for Connors' number 0 car, as the machine was driven to a seventh-place finish after last year's Pepsi 200 by two-time defending Featherlite Modified Series champion Mike Stefanik while Connors healed a broken leg in the grandstands.

Breunig's win in the Teddy Bear Pools Truck division feature meant an end to Ernie Tarca's winning streak in the first two events. Breunig worked all morning to repair his truck, after he sustained heavy body and mechanical damage after getting involved in an accident the night before. Defending truck division champion Ted Chalmers of Holyoke, MA, was second, followed by Mike Salmond, Rob Valerio, and E.J. Lagacy in fifth.

Carlson drove to the Sportsman victory after a close battle with defending division champion Jon Waterhouse. Waterhouse would settle for second, followed by opening-night victor Ed Charette, Chris Drouin, and 1998 Super Stock champion Craig Collins in fifth.

The Super Stock division completed the Sunday afternoon program with a memorable first win for Holmgren. Gerald Durand was second, followed by Bill Reiman, Mark Lajoie, and Chris Matthews in fifth place.

Riverside Park Speedway continues its 51st season of auto racing on Saturday, April 24th, with Twin 35's for the NAPA Modified division. Also on tap on the 24th are the Teddy Bear Pools Trucks, Sportsman, Super Stocks, and Figure 8's. Racing begins at 6:00 p.m.



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Planning For Chris Knight Memorial Tourney



CHRIS KNIGHT MEMORIAL tournament directors — Michael Knight, David Trehey, Ray Knight, Jim Knight, Vin Zick, and Phil Howland — are now gathering for the final meetings on the upcoming Christopher Knight Memorial Golf Tournament. This event will be held at the Agawam Country Club on Saturday, June 12th, and the fee is \$75 (for golf and dinner). The afternoon session is now sold out, and members are currently taking applications for the morning tee-off. Call Jim Knight at 789-2745 for more information.

Softball Clinic Scheduled For Saturday, May 1st, At Agawam High School Field

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Registration: 8:30 to 9:00 a.m., Agawam High School, Field 2 & 3.
Welcome: 9:00 to 9:15 a.m., Agawam High School.
Warm-up and conditioning for everyone: 9:15 to 9:30 a.m.
Position session (pitchers, catchers, infielders, outfielders): 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.
Group skills for everyone (hitting, bunting, fielding, catching, throwing): 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.
Situation play and game play for everyone: 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 noon.
Final wrap-up: 12:00 noon.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Coaches will be free to attend players' clinic at various times throughout the day.

PLAYER'S CLINIC

Participants should bring glove, sweats, indoor/outdoor footwear. (No metal cleats — please!)

Fee is \$12. For further information, please call Dan Sullivan at 786-6265.

CLINICIANS

Player's Clinic: Present members of the Agawam High School softball team, and Debbie Lickley

The rain date will be Saturday, May 15th, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at AHS.



Golf Tip Of The Week...

Compiled by
Jim Modzelesky,
PGA
Oak Ridge Golf Club,
Feeding Hills, MA

Practice Lessons - Stay Down Early...

After a winter layoff (assuming you *have* a winter layoff), you'll probably be eager to get playing again and will want to hit miraculous shots from the start.

This is not a good idea. It *is*, however, a good idea to start a round of golf carefully, keeping the ball in play until you're confident enough to be more aggressive; so you should start the year by playing carefully.

And the way to do that is to concentrate on staying down throughout your swing.

In your eagerness to start again, you'll find yourself swinging hard and looking up too quickly. Even when your swing is in good shape, this is a mistake, as it can cause you to blade the ball.

So when your swing is rusty, it's an even bigger mistake. Better to be patient and stay down. Soon you'll start hitting the ball consistently.

Amy Bilodeau Lifts Bentley's Lacrosse To Fourth Straight Win

Sophomore Amy Bilodeau of Agawam, a 1997 graduate of Agawam High School, scored four goals, and a trio of teammates each found the back of the net three times, as Bentley College extended its winning streak to four with a 20-8 win over Franklin Pierce College in non-conference women's lacrosse on Thursday afternoon, April 15th.

Bentley, a first-year varsity program, improved to 4-2 while Franklin Pierce is winless in five contests this spring. The Falcons jumped out to a 4-0 lead and extended it to 6-1 before the Lady Ravens finished the first half strong to close to within four, 10-6. In the second half, Bentley broke it open early with four goals in the first six minutes, making it 14-7.

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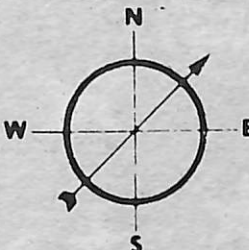
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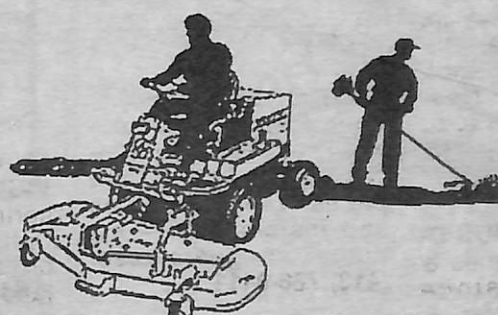
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3 J REMOVAL: Attics, basements, garages, and more. Complete removal service. Free est. Lowest rates. 783-6103.

DISC JOCKEY SERVICE: Providing the very best in entertainment and sound. Music Box Productions — DJ Tom Melbourne (certified professional). (413) 789-6788.

MINOR PLUMBING: Quality plumbing at reasonable rates. Prompt and efficient service. Lic. no. 203752. Bob at 572-9143 (Westfield).

GEORGE FARINA LANDSCAPING: Spring cleaning including lawn mowing, tree work, foundation planting, seeding and sodding. George Farina, 786-5658.

JW'S & SON HOME IMPROVEMENT: All phases of roofing and repairs. John. Home, (413) 786-6754; cell number, 552-9137.

SUFFRITI CONSTRUCTION CO.: New roofing and repairs. Insured and licensed. Many referrals. 786-5516.

TIM'S CARPENTRY: Specializing in interior finish work. Also kitchen & bath remodeling. Additions, decks, cedar closets. Installation of hardwood floors. Free estimates; insured. (413) 789-2367.

CIRILLO'S LANDSCAPING: Specializing in commercial and residential lawn care. Over 30 years of quality, dependable, and friendly service. Free estimates. Call 786-7843.

CHILD CARE: Experienced teacher and child care provider has openings for all ages. Large back yard. Nutritious meals and snacks. Preschool program included. License no. 184792. Call Sue at 789-2530.

JOE RUSSO PAVING & EXCAVATING: In business for over 40 years. Fully insured. Blacktop & sealed driveways. Loam, landscaping, fill. In-ground oil tank removal. 649 Cooper St., Agawam. Phone & fax: (413) 786-0617.

CURLEY'S LAWN SERVICE: Schedule your spring cleanout today! Call for free estimates on all of your spring landscape and mowing needs. Fully insured; experienced uniformed crews. Monthly billing available for seasonal mowing customers. (413) 786-4622.

PIETRONIRO LANDSCAPING: Commercial/residential. Mowing/hedges; mulch; spring/fall cleanup. Half price — every 4th mow (new customers only). John G. Pietroniro, (413) 786-5770.

MR. HANDYMAN: One call does it all. Painting, carpentry, drywall. 10% off any job over \$100. Licensed and insured. Quality work at reasonable prices. Phone 592-1658; cellular 626-9423.

GARIBIAN ELECTRIC: All your electrical needs. Fully insured; free estimates; prompt service; 10% senior discount. (413) 781-4376 or (413) 569-2925.

PROFESSIONAL TURF SERVICES: Put the quality and care back into your lawn care. Locally owned and operated. For a free estimate, call 734-3696.

T.J. BARK MULCH, INC.: All natural, double ground bark mulch. Delivery available. Pick-up at 994 Western Ave., Westfield, MA. M-F, 7-5; Sun., 10-2. (413) 568-6856 or (860) 654-1975.

STUMP GRINDING: John's Stump Grinding. Free estimates. 10% discount for Agawam & Feeding Hills residents. Call 789-6461.

BOB LONGO CONSTRUCTION: 27 years specializing in kitchens and additions. Free custom design. Fully insured, free estimates. In Agawam, 789-0758.

INTERIOR PAINT, PAPER, AND WOODWORK: Excellent work at the best price. Call Dennis, 789-4419.

CONSIGNMENT: "Forget Me Not," a women's quality fashion consignment shop, is now offering maternity clothes. Large selection — casual and dressy. We also carry size 4-24 in women's fashions. 1353 Springfield St., F.H. (next to F.H. Post Office). 786-3376.

REIDY'S LANDSCAPING: Commercial & residential. Spring clean-up; mowing; mulch; complete landscape services. Agawam, 786-8575.

CHARTIER'S GENERAL CARPENTRY: We take the worry out of building. Additions; new construction; renovations; custom decks. Lic no. 051681; fully insured. Don Chartier, owner. (413) 796-8331.

BLUE DIAMOND PAVING: Driveways built to last! Paving; regrading of stone driveways; sealcoating; repairs. 1-800-PAVING-4 (1-800-728-4644).

AGAWAM SEPTIC TANK PUMPING SERVICE: Celebrating 44 years of dedicated service. Santi DiDonato. (413) 786-2554 or 1-860-668-4301 (in West Suffield).

ROSSI LANDSCAPING: Lawn mowing, sand removal, spring & fall cleanups, snow plowing, property maintenance. "Expect to be impressed." Telephone & fax: (413) 789-7245.

LOOKING FOR AN ACCOUNTANT? Call Frank A. Schoenrock, Certified Public Accountant. 18R Hartford Avenue, Granby Center, (860) 653-0734.

AMERICLEAN POWERWASH: Southwick, MA 01077. Thomas "Jeff" Gagnon, owner. Building & house washing; deck cleaning. In MA, (413) 569-9927; in CT, (860) 651-5151.

JEFF'S LAWN & LANDSCAPING: Mowing, mulch, all your landscaping needs. Fully insured. 789-7325.

SCOTT MITCHELL'S HOME IMPROVEMENTS: Fully insured. Roofing, vinyl siding, replacement windows, additions. MA Lic. Southwick, 569-5313.

UDS (UNIVERSAL DIGITAL SOLUTIONS): Specializing in custom software, website design, cgi scripting. (413) 789-3688 or www.udsol.com

TREE STUMP GRINDING: Lowest prices, fastest service. Free estimates. Call Pine Grove Stump Grinding, (413) 783-7236.

LAWN CARE, ETC.: Lawns mowed, hedges trimmed. Reasonable rates. Call me after you call the big companies. Also, small roto-tilling jobs. Agawam area only. Free estimates. Call 786-6856 (leave message).

MRM LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION: New sod lawns, sprinkler systems, retaining walls, brick walks. 30 yrs. experience. Insured. Absolutely no obligation. In MA, 1-888-521-6788; in CT, 1-413-569-3171.

GREAT BROOK LUMBER COMPANY: Double ground bark mulch — \$15 yd. (plus tax). Pick up at our yard. Delivery is also available. 20 Industrial Road, Southwick (Rte. 10 & 202). Open Mon-Sat., 7 to 3:30. (413) 569-0591.

WANTED

HELP WANTED: Brozack's Bobcat Service is looking for someone to work part-time. Must have valid MA driver's license and be able to work unsupervised Saturdays and Sundays. Call (413) 789-4876. Leave a message.

ELDER CARE: Do you need help with everyday tasks? Personal assistance, errands, light housekeeping. Honest, dependable, and caring. Please call. (860) 668-4872.

EARN EXTRA INCOME: \$250-plus weekly mailing discount coupons. For more information, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: AAA, Dept. 2, P.O. Box 5679, Hollywood, FL 33023.

WANTED: Nurse aides, home health aides, personal care aides. Homecare visits of 6 to 8 hours are available now! Excellent pay, paid vacation, no employment fee. Call Interim Healthcare today! (413) 734-6900.

CLASSES

RIDING INSTRUCTION: Learn to ride, jump, show! Equitation, dressage, jumping, training. Beginner to advanced. 100 x 200 indoor arena. Advanced licensed instructors. Show/pleasure horses & ponies for sale/lease. Summer riding programs, July 12-16 and August 9-13. END OF HUNT FARMS has a special place for you! Home, (860) 668-1656; barn, (860) 668-9990.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: 18' x 31' above-ground pool. Includes filter and accessories. Excellent condition. Must dismantle. Best offer. Call 786-8145.

HEMLOCKS & ARBORVITAE: 3 to 3½ ft., \$9; junipers, 2 gal., \$4. Free delivery. 786-8631.

OPEN HOUSE — SUNDAY, 2-4: 7 Grove Street, Southwick. Scenic lakeview from this completely remodeled 7 RM, 3 BR, 2 Bth home. ½ ac. fenced yard. Located on dead-end st. 1st flr. laun., office, cedar closet, 1 car attached garage, air cond., Anderson windows and Pella slider. \$122,500. 3% Fee to Agents. 569-1433.

FOR SALE: 14-foot Phantom sailboat. No trailer, good condition. 786-6380.

AGAWAM HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER: Lovely 7 rm. Colonial. 3 BR, 1½ baths, attach. 2-car garage, move-in condition. \$152,000. 789-1199.

FOR SALE: Everert upright piano, \$1,200; Lazy Boy full-size sleep sofa, \$300; pair of living room chairs, \$150; 3 LR tables, \$150; bunk beds, \$75; treadmill, \$150; day beds, \$100 ea.; 20" bikes, \$20. Please call 786-2400.

WALTZ BASICS: 8 week class, Wednesday evenings, beginning May 5, 1999, 7-8:30 p.m., \$8.00 per couple. Sponsored by the Southwick Grange, College Highway, Southwick, MA. For more information, call (413) 357-8851.

FOR RENT

BUSINESS SPACE FOR RENT: Approximately 2,000 square feet. 2nd floor. All wired for computers. Plenty of extra phone jacks. Call 786-0370.

FREE

FREE: Weight bench and weights. Call 786-6660.

TAG SALE

TAG SALE: Sat. & Sun., Apr. 24th & 25th, 9-2. 108 Sylvan Ln., Feeding Hills. Furniture, clothes, appliances, etc.

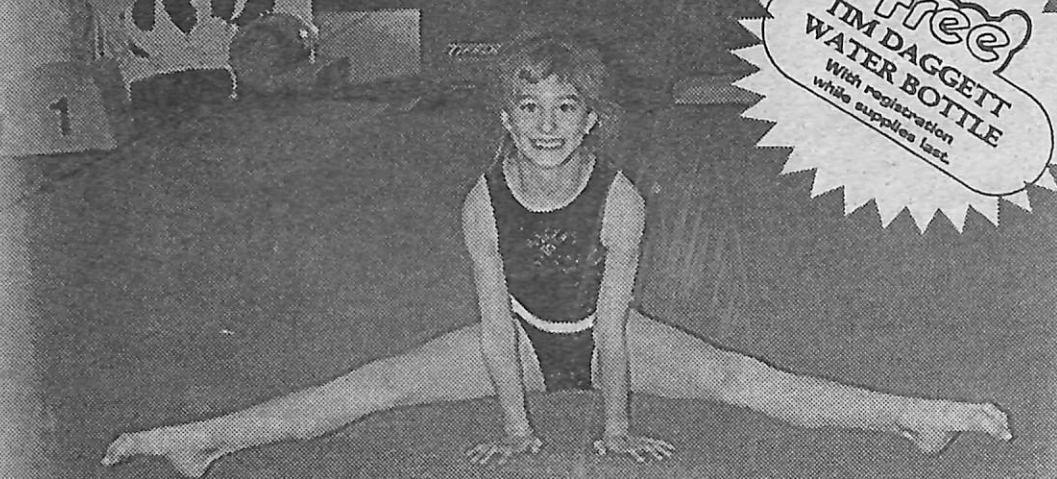
TAG SALE: April 24th & 25th, 9-3. 165 Cambridge St. (off of North Westfield St.), F.H. Toys, clothes, & more.

Our classified ads cost just \$10 a week for 30 words or less

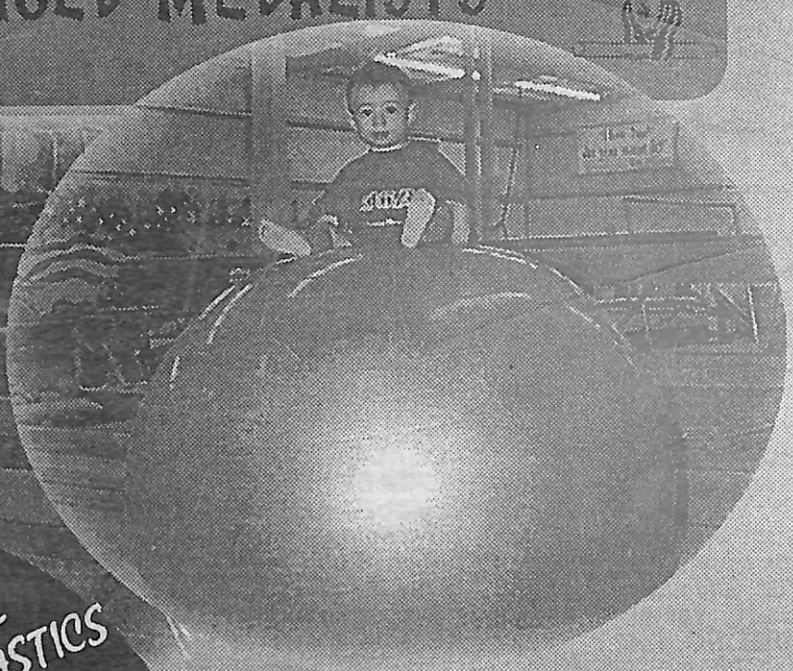
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